

Palestinian stabbed in Ashdod

TEL AVIV (R) — An Arab living in the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip was stabbed in the back twice and seriously wounded Sunday in the coastal town of Ashdod, police said. After concern that the 50-year-old sanitation worker was attacked by Jews, police said he was apparently stabbed by an Arab colleague after a dispute. State radio had earlier quoted the victim as saying his attacker was about 20 and looked Jewish. Two Israelis from the neighbouring town of Ashkelon were stabbed to death in Gaza by local Arabs on Sept. 27 and Oct. 10 and tension there has been running high. In another incident, Israeli troops fired shots in the air and sprayed tear gas at Palestinian high school students in Gaza after they burned tyres and threw stones, police said. On Saturday police arrested 12 Arabs in Gaza and charged them with incitement.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordanian Arab League Council
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية والرأي

3 held for Jerusalem attack

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli police Sunday night announced the arrest of three Palestinians suspected of carrying out a hand grenade attack that killed one person and wounded 69 near Jerusalem's Wailing Wall last week. A police statement said the suspects belonged to an extremist religious group called "Islamic Jihad" and were recruited by members of the Fatah faction of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). The group apparently was not linked to the radical Shi'ite Muslim organisation of the same name in Lebanon. According to the statement, the suspects lived in Silwan village, near the site of Wednesday night's attack on army recruits and their families. A court order banned publishing further details about the suspects, including their names.

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Masri returns from Tunis

AMMAN (Petra) — Foreign Minister Taher Masri returned home from Tunis Sunday after heading Jordan's delegation to the meetings of the 86th session of the Arab League Council. During his stay in Tunis, Mr. Masri held talks with Arab foreign ministers on developments in the Arab World. He was received at the airport by Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs Sami Jouhad, Minister of Planning Taher Kana'an and other officials.

Soviet envoy briefs Iraqi leader on summit

BAGHDAD (AP) — A special Kremlin envoy on Sunday briefed President Saddam Hussein on the outcome of the U.S.-Soviet summit at Reykjavik earlier this month, the state radio said. Viktor Popov of the Soviet Foreign Ministry delivered a verbal message from Kremlin leaders on the summit between U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in Iceland, the radio said.

France, S. Arabia discuss sale of tanks

RIYADH (R) — French Defence Minister Andre Giraud said Sunday he had discussed the sale of French AMX-40 tanks to Saudi Arabia and that they would be tested in the desert next summer. "We believe it is a good weapon and we will test it in the kingdom next summer when conditions are difficult," Mr. Giraud told a news conference on the eve of his four-day visit. But Mr. Giraud did not say whether he had reached any agreement on the sale of the tanks during two rounds of talks with Saudi Arabia's Defence Minister Prince Sultan bin Abdul Aziz.

GCC aides to hold security talks

BAHRAIN (R) — Interior ministers from the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) will discuss a common security strategy at a meeting in Riyadh on Tuesday, Saudi Arabia's interior minister said Sunday. Prince Nayef bin Abdul Aziz was quoted by the official Saudi Press Agency as saying a security pact among the GCC states was the best way to achieve the strategy.

Sudan to reopen embassy in Tehran

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Sudanese Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi will reopen his country's embassy in Iran during a forthcoming visit, Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported Sunday. The state-owned Sudanese News Agency (SUNA) reported Saturday Mr. Mahdi was preparing to visit Tehran in November. No date was given. Sudan, which maintains strong ties with Iraq, Iran's Gulf war enemy, closed its embassy in Tehran in 1984 along with 20 other diplomatic missions abroad.

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Jordanian-Palestinian accord still holds — Rifai

KUWAIT (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai said Sunday the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement was neither abrogated nor frozen, but still holds and that Jordan terminated political coordination with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) after the organisation said it was not able to continue implementing what was agreed upon between the two sides.

The Prime Minister emphasised in an interview with Kuwaiti television that the situation did not affect in any way Jordan's relations with the PLO. He said the government recognised the PLO as the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and that Jordan was still dealing with it in that capacity. Mr. Rifai said that the main achievement of his visit to Kuwait was reaching an agreement on economic and trade cooperation between the government in both countries that was signed on Sunday covering all areas of cooperation and works towards strengthening brotherly ties between the two countries.

He said that an agreement was reached to establish a joint higher committee to follow up on the implementation of the economic agreement to meet alternately in Kuwait and Amman.

Mr. Rifai described his visit to Kuwait as excellent. He praised relations between the two countries and expressed

his thanks to Kuwaiti Prime Minister Sheikh Sa'ad Al Abdullah Al Sahah, Kuwaiti leaders and the people for their warm hospitality accorded to him and his delegation.

In response to a question on his talks with Kuwaiti leaders, the Prime Minister said he had several rounds of talks during which he discussed several issues of mutual interest in particular and the Arab World in general.

He said the position of the Kuwaiti leaders and their assessment of the Arab situation was identical with that of His Majesty King Hussein.

Mr. Rifai said he carried invitation from the King to the Kuwaiti emir and the Kuwaiti regent to visit Jordan and that he hoped the visit will take place in the near future. He said the talks were successful and as expected.

The Prime Minister said he regretted that there were many differences and divisions in the Arab World. He said Jordan's stand under the King is based on

the need for Arab solidarity and for reaching a united Arab stand to confront issues facing the Arab Nation.

"Jordan believes that the first step should be the convening of an Arab summit conference to be attended by Arab leaders at the highest level to discuss all issues in the Arab World."

He said that the King was very active in his contacts with Arab leaders to pave the way for holding an Arab summit. Adding that the meeting of Arab leaders at the Islamic summit in Kuwait may be a good opportunity to work towards that goal.

On the Palestinian problem, he said it was the central Arab cause and the first cause for Jordan because of its historic and geographic link. "The Palestinian problem is a matter of life or death for Jordan which is why the King is concerned day and night in his efforts to reach a just and honourable solution to the problem."

He said that initiatives and proposals to solve the problem were many and that the outcome of the latest efforts confirmed that there was no way to reach a just solution except through the convening of an international conference that involves all parties to the conflict including the PLO and the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council to guarantee Palestinian rights and solve the problem in all its aspects.

Saudi prince arrives in Baghdad

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Crown Prince Abdullah of Saudi Arabia arrived in Baghdad Sunday and was expected to meet with President Saddam Hussein as part of Riyadh's efforts to reconcile feuding Syria and Iraq. The state-run Iraqi News Agency (INA) reported the arrival of Prince Abdullah, who heads an Arab League committee formed to mediate between the hostile governments.

Prince Abdullah was met at Baghdad airport by Izzet Ibrahim, vice-chairman of Iraq's Revolutionary Command Council. INA said his visit would

last several days, but gave no details. An Arab diplomat in Baghdad ruled out an early tangible breakthrough in relations between Iraq and Syria.

"No concrete development has surfaced that will prompt an early tangible breakthrough in the tense relations between the two countries," the diplomat said.

Al Thawra, newspaper of the Iraqi Baath Party, and the government daily Al Jumhuriya carried articles Sunday attacking Syria for its support for Iran and its involvement in Lebanon.

The six-year-old Gulf war

between Iraq and Iran also was expected to be discussed during talks here.

Saudi Arabia and Kuwait are the main Arab financial backers of Iraq's war effort. The two nations also wield influence with Syria, which is an ally of Iran in the war.

Prince Abdullah arrived from Damascus, where he met with Syrian President Hafez Assad during a 24-hour visit.

Syria's official media gave no details of Prince Abdullah's talks in Damascus.

Foreign diplomats said the Saudi envoy delivered a letter to Mr. Assad from King Fahd.

Moscow expels 5 U.S. diplomats

MOSCOW (AP) — The Soviet Foreign Ministry announced Sunday that five American diplomats in Moscow and Leningrad had been ordered to leave the country for "impermissible activities," the Soviet News Agency TASS said.

TASS said the U.S. embassy in Moscow was handed an official protest about the diplomats' actions. The news agency did not give any other details and no U.S. officials were immediately available for comment.

The expulsions follow the U.S. order for 25 Soviet diplomats at the United Nations in New York

to leave the United States. The 25 had been accused of spying and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and other Soviet officials have said the Kremlin was prepared to retaliate. The last of the 25 Soviet diplomats left the United States last week.

A U.S. embassy spokesman who spoke on the condition of anonymity confirmed later that a U.S. diplomat had been called to the Soviet Foreign Ministry on Sunday afternoon.

He refused to make any further comment, such as identifying the diplomats named in the TASS report.

TASS said in a

Russian-language report that four of the expelled diplomats were working in Moscow and one was a staff member of the consulate in Leningrad.

The announcement of the expulsions did not link the five diplomats to the departure of the 25 Soviets from the United Nations. Kremlin officials have contended the departure of the Soviets was part of a normal personnel rotation.

The last American diplomat expelled by the Soviet Union was Eric Sites, an embassy staffer accused of espionage and ordered out of the country in May.

(Continued on page 3)

Peres heads last cabinet meeting over captured pilot

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres convened his last cabinet session Sunday amid concern over the fate of an Israeli airman whose plane was downed during an air raid over Lebanon last week.

Peres is to exchange posts Monday with hardline Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, 71, under a power-sharing agreement reached after stalemate general elections in 1984.

Israel has said it has no information about the fate of the airman, whom Shi'ite Amal militiamen in South Lebanon claim to have captured. Senior military officials carrying maps and video-tape equipment attended Sunday's session to brief ministers of the raid and the missing Israeli airman. Publication of details of the meeting were banned.

A hand grenade attack which killed one and wounded 70 in Jerusalem last week and the downing of the Israeli Phantom jet during a retaliatory raid near the South Lebanese port of Sidon have cast gloom over Peres' last days in office.

The incidents have also fuelled scepticism among hardliners.

including Shamir's Likud Bloc, over Peres' peace efforts. Peres advocates exchanging the occupied Gaza Strip and large areas of the West Bank in exchange for peace. Shamir strongly opposes any territorial concessions.

The Likud leader has already indicated that he will seek an increase in Jewish settlement after his 25-member cabinet is sworn in Monday.

Israeli media said the United States has urged Shamir not to build new settlements in territories captured by Israel during the 1967 Middle East war and to follow Peres' policy of limiting the Jewish presence in these areas.

Cabinet Secretary Yosi Beilin said Sunday's session was conducted in a "business-as-usual" atmosphere, underscoring that the "rotation" between Peres and Shamir leaves the cabinet intact.

The only changes will be the addition of Yitzhak Modai of Likud as a minister-without-portfolio and Labour parliamentarian Shoshana Arbeli-Almozilino, the first woman appointed to the cabinet,

as health minister. Peres and Shamir agreed to the changes last week after bitter wrangling delayed the start of Shamir's term as premier for nearly a week.

The sharp-tongued Modai was forced out of the cabinet in July for publicly insulting Peres. Arbeli-Almozilino will replace Health Minister Mordechai Gur who has refused to serve under Shamir.

Meanwhile the chief of Israel's air force said Sunday an Israeli aviator who crashed in South Lebanon last week may be in Syrian captivity, Israel Radio reported.

Maj.-Gen. Amos Lapidot said the flier, who went down Thursday during an Israeli air strike against Palestinian targets, was alive and had been captured by a guerrilla organisation.

But Gen. Lapidot added the man may have been transferred to Syria because of the close ties between the Damascus government and various guerrilla groups in South Lebanon, the radio said.

Arab League Council unanimously votes for summit

TUNIS, Tunisia (Agencies) — The Arab League's Ministerial Council has voted unanimously for the convening of an Arab summit in the near future, the council announced Sunday.

The 21 participants, foreign ministers of 20 Arab nations and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) making up the council, met behind closed doors for eight hours beginning Saturday evening. They were continuing this, their 86th ordinary session, Sunday.

A statement by the council said all participants had agreed that Arab League Secretary General Chadi Klibi and current League President Ahmad Taleb Ibrahim, Algerian foreign affairs minister, had been charged with beginning consultations to determine the place and date for a summit.

Inter-Arab differences, including those over the Iran-Iraq war, have held up the convening of a summit meeting of Arab leaders for more than three years.

There was a flurry of renewed efforts to bring off a summit following the April 15 U.S. military strikes on Libya, but inter-Arab differences again stood in the way.

Mr. Ibrahim, presiding over the meeting, called for a summit in his opening speech, saying a "common strategy and action" were needed in the face of "the most dangerous period" facing the Arab nation.

He criticised the "negative influence of individual efforts" among Arabs, an apparent allusion to the controversial July meeting between King Hassan II of Morocco and Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres and the 1979 Israeli-Egyptian Camp David agreements.

The foreign ministers meeting decided to defer collective judgment on the issue of the talks between Israel and Morocco to an Arab summit, an Arab League spokesman said Sunday.

Syria presented a draft resolution at Saturday night's opening session condemning the meeting between King Hassan of Morocco and then Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

Syria cut diplomatic ties with Rabat after the meeting and Algeria, Libya and the PLO have been pressing for condemnation of Morocco, Arab diplomatic sources said.

The spokesman said it was decided to refer all topics where there was disagreement among the League's 21 members to a summit which delegates agreed should be held as soon as possible.

He said discussion at the half-yearly council session had been "frank, courteous and positive."

claims it captured the Israeli airman, said Saturday he planned to swap the captive for militiamen held by Israel. Mr. Berri spoke during a visit to Damascus for meetings with Syrian leaders.

A military official said Sunday Israel had not verified that the flier was being held by Amal. The official spoke on condition of anonymity in keeping with military regulations.

Gen. Lapidot also said the F-4 Phantom was not downed by a rocket, despite claims by Lebanese police and Amal militiamen, but crashed because of a malfunction which set off one of its bombs, the radio report said.

In another development, Palestinian nationalists distributed leaflets in the occupied West Bank praising the downing of the Israeli plane and an attack in Jerusalem on Wednesday.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin reported to the cabinet on Israeli efforts to track down the missing aviator, but no details were made public. The government met at a ministerial defence committee whose proceedings are secret by law, said Cabinet Secretary Yossi Beilin.

Jordan, Kuwait signs economic accord

KUWAIT (Agencies) — Jordan and Kuwait Sunday wound up two days of talks here by signing a bilateral agreement for promoting trade, economic and technical cooperation between them, and for encouraging investments in tourism.

In accordance with the terms of the agreement which was signed by Minister of Industry, Trade and Supply Rajai Muasher and his Kuwaiti counterpart Faisal Abdul Razzak Al Khaled, Kuwait and Jordan will exempt each other's national products from customs duty and importation taxes, and will both encourage capital to be invested in either country. They will create incentives and offer facilities to help in this endeavour.

The agreement also provides for encouraging trade fairs which promote the sale of Kuwaiti and Jordanian products.

The two countries will also cooperate in manpower and social security affairs.

The agreement also provides for Kuwait and Jordan to cooperate in tourism by organising trips for tourist groups and will cooperate in establishing tourist installations and facilities. They will also increase the volume of air, maritime and land transport between them.

The agreement which followed wide-ranging talks on Saturday and Sunday also provides for the creation of a joint ministerial committee which will be entrusted with following up the implementation of the agreement.

The two ministers who signed the agreement exchanged speeches at the signing ceremony in which they emphasised that the deal was designed to bolster brotherly ties and promote economic and trade relations between the two Arab states. The

signing of the agreement followed a meeting here Sunday between the emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, and Prime Minister Zaid Rifai who conveyed to the emir greetings from His Majesty King Hussein and wishes for Kuwait's further progress and prosperity.

At the meeting, the two sides reviewed bilateral cooperation, current Arab affairs and means for bolstering solidarity among Arab countries, according to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

Petra said that Mr. Rifai briefed the emir on Jordan's views vis-a-vis the developments in the Middle East and the convening of an Arab summit conference.

The two sides' views were identical on all subjects discussed, Petra said.

Dr. Muasher had earlier spoken about the outcome of the meetings with Kuwait government leaders during which elaborate discussion was made of bilateral relations and means of promoting them in all fields.

The two sides decided to organise a seminar in Kuwait in the coming two months for the sake of promoting investments in Jordan's 1986-1990 five-year national development plan, particularly in economic and tourist projects, Dr. Muasher said. He said that the two sides will continue their discussions on Monday.

Apart from Mr. Rifai and Dr. Muasher the Jordanian side to the meetings included the ministers of Finance and Energy Hanna Odeh and Hisham Al Khatib, Central Bank Governor Hussein Al Qasem, the undersecretary of the Ministry of Industry and Trade, Mohammad Al Saqqaf, the economic advisor at the Prime Ministry and Jordan's ambassador

to Kuwait. The Kuwait side included the ministers of state for Prime Ministry affairs, finance, trade and industry and other officials who included the governor of the Kuwait Central Bank.

Later Mr. Rifai held a meeting with representatives of the Minister of Finance Jassem Al Khurafi.

Mr. Rifai also held a meeting with representatives of the Jordanian expatriates in Kuwait. A spokesman for the group outlined Jordanian expatriates requests and their views regarding education and employment. Mr. Rifai said that the Jordanian government would do all it can to meet these requests within available means.

Meanwhile, a Palestinian mayor was quoted here as defending the Jordanian plan for development of the West Bank against criticism by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Elias Freij, mayor of Bethlehem, in an interview with the newspaper Al Watan labelled as "untrue" the PLO accusation that the Jordanian scheme was designed in collaboration with Israel with a view to "curtailing the influence of the PLO in the occupied territories."

Mr. Freij said the proposal for the development plan was initiated by a number of Palestinian notables of the West Bank, who pressed King Hussein "to do something to remedy the deteriorating conditions of inhabitants in the occupied territories."

Mr. Freij was interviewed in Rome, where he was attending a seminar on cooperation between the Arab World and the European Community.

Ministry to prepare new education law

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Education will shortly embark on preparing a new education law for Jordan to replace the existing law drawn up in 1964 and the ministry will also direct more attention to the status of teachers, the role of schools and physical education, Minister of Education Thouqan Hindawi announced here Sunday.

He said that the old law had overlooked the importance of school administration and the school staff that should be the main element in the teaching-learning process.

Addressing a meeting of directors of education in the country, the minister said that the educational institution in Jordan has a distinguished status among other institutions because it is directly influencing the future of the country.

He requested directors of education to work out a practical plan that can help promote creative skills among children. He also called on the directors to find speedy solutions for problems facing two-shift schools and to increase the number of periods of

physical training so that all school children would be able to exercise their sports activities.

"All schools should be provided with stationery, books and other requirements and above all qualified teachers so that the educational process can be run smoothly," the minister added.

Mr. Hindawi announced that salaries of teachers will be readjusted to be on the same level of those of other government employees, regardless of the specialisations and the subjects they teach.

Death toll rises to 10 aboard tanker hit in Gulf

ARI DHABI (R) — Five more crew members of the Panama-flag tanker Five Brooks, attacked by Iran in the Strait of Hormuz on Thursday, were found hanged to death in the ship Sunday, shipping sources said.

This brought the confirmed death toll to 10. Five charred bodies were found by firefighters in a crew cabin Saturday.

The death toll was the worst aboard a civilian ship caught up in the Gulf war since 16 died in the tanker Azarad, which was destroyed in an Iraqi air raid on Iran's Sirri Island oil terminal last Aug. 12.

The Five Brooks victims were all from Pakistan or the Maldives Islands, the sources said. Their deaths raised known "tanker war" deaths to more than 50 this year.

The sources said all 39 members of the crew of the Five Brooks, managed by a Hong Kong company, Gulfcast Ship Management, were now accounted for.

They said 21 survivors were in Sharjah, in the United Arab Emirates, and eight including the captain were still aboard the crippled 12,804-tonne tanker, which was being towed to the UAE port of Khor Fakkan.

Survivor Waseem Munser told Reuters by telephone from a hotel in Sharjah Saturday that the Five Brooks' crew quarters erupted in flame after the ship was hit by shells or missiles fired by an Iranian gunboat.

The ship, on charter to Kuwait, was carrying a full load of bunker fuel.

Shaaban threatens more raids on Iranian targets

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraqi Air Force Commander Air Marshal Hameed Shaaban Sunday threatened new and more destructive attacks on Iranian economic installations.

"Recent Iraqi air strikes deep inside Iran were clear examples of our military capabilities in all fields," the official Iraqi News Agency (INA) quoted him as saying.

"Forthcoming strikes by the Iraqi Air Force on vital Iranian economic facilities will be more powerful and destructive, to achieve a decisive victory against the Iranian aggressors."

He said latest attacks on Iran's

main oil terminal at Kharg Island in the northern Gulf were part of an overall plan to destroy its installations, particularly its loading jetties.

Shipping sources in the region said Saturday that recent Iraqi raids had knocked out the last two of the terminal's original 14 jetties.

Marshal Shaaban said the air force had flown 141 raids against Kharg up to Friday.

A Baghdad communique last week also reported Iraqi attacks on Iran's Rustam and Sasan offshore oilfields, more than 800 kilometres from the closest Iraqi air base.

Blacks reject Pretoria order to quit township

OUKASIE, South Africa (R) — Residents of Oukasie, a poor South African black township, have rejected government plans to move them and vowed to stay put and strike.

During a noisy meeting Sunday at the Roman Catholic mission, about 800 people danced, sang freedom songs and voted to stage a one-day strike in local factories on Wednesday to protest at being told to move.

Constitutional Development and Planning Minister Chris Heunis announced last week that Oukasie, near the northern town of Brits, was being abolished. He said its 10,000 residents must move to Lethlabile, a new town 25 kilometres away.

Oukasie residents fear that officials may move in trucks and bulldozers to clear the 55-year-old township.

"We want to tell the world: If we go to Lethlabile, it's not voluntarily. We've been forced to go there," community leader Levy

Mamabolo told the meeting. Civil rights groups say Mr. Heunis' decision, after a long debate over the future of Oukasie, was made despite a government promise last year to stop the forced removal of blacks.

The policy has been used to force hundreds of thousands of blacks out of areas reserved for whites under apartheid racial laws.

"It's a reversal of policy," said Alan Morris, a field worker for the Transvaal Rural Action Committee, a civil rights group. "This is the most crude and blatant example of a forced removal."

Morris said it was the first real forced removal in South Africa since blacks were moved from the township of Magopa, western Transvaal, in February 1984.

The crowd at Sunday's meeting voted unanimously to stay in Oukasie, a crumbling township where most people live in shacks made of hardboard.

South Sudanese town slowly succumbing to hunger and despair

WAU, Sudan (R) — The blind, emaciated tribeswoman sat immobile on the mission porch, her black skin hanging loosely from her bones, her face shrivelled with hunger, waiting patiently for God to end her suffering.

"My eyes hurt me badly. I cannot move to bring water. I am just waiting to die. There is nothing more to fear," Teresa Falan said slowly in her Balandia dialect.

Teresa's despair came as the end of a typical South Sudanese destitute's story. A widow, she said armed men shot her brother earlier this year in nearby Rumbek.

She said she went to a displaced people's camp and then to the Catholic mission, which later turned her out onto the stoop when they, too, ran out of food.

Miraculously, cases of starvation like Teresa's are still rare in Wau, a town of more than 100,000 people, 1,040 kilometres southwest of Khartoum isolated by Sudan's three-year-old civil war.

But severe malnutrition is relentlessly advancing through the poorer quarters. Like the vultures circling overhead, Teresa is a visible warning of what may come.

"Crops are generally poor and those in the countryside will run out of food by January and will converge on Wau, where we are already short of food. Then there will be a real crisis," Wau Governor Brigadier Albino Akol told Reuters.

Wau is the major area worst hit by the bush war pitting government forces against those of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) led by Colonel

John Garang. Brig. Akol and the Roman Catholic bishop of Wau, Joseph Nyekindi, said in separate interviews no military solution was possible.

They said the people of southern Sudan wanted the Khartoum government and the rebels to call a ceasefire and resume talks.

Occasional gunfire and explosions at night are reminders of SPLA harassment that has prevented the government or foreign relief agencies from coming to help.

Teachers say pupils in the few schools open cannot concentrate because of hunger. Deaths are more frequent and farmers have been killed by spears in their fields.

Scuffles have broken out at bakeries and beggars criss-cross the markets appealing for handfuls of bread or flour.

The slow pace of Wau's decline and lack of epidemic disease can be attributed to African traditions of sharing food — some houses pack in more than 40 family members — to relatively good administration, cleanliness and plentiful drinking water from wells dug by a Sudanese team from the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

Wau's major sources of food were previously family farms around the town and the railway line from the north. But the last

train arrived here two years ago, insecurity has put two-thirds of the farms out of reach and the SPLA and government militias have laid waste bread-basket areas further away.

People now subsist on hoarded stocks, fish from the river, leaves, wild roots and fruit from the fertile, tree-studded plain around the town. Cereals and meat can be bought at astronomical prices in the still-bustling tribal markets.

A 50-kilogramme bag of wheat flour costs 1,500 pounds (\$375), 10 months' average salary, and sugar double that.

Even for those with salaried jobs, isolation has brought a new problem. The government and the army are the major employers and Wau's banks have all but run out of banknotes.

Diesel fuel is critically short for the few working vehicles. Four-hundred tonnes of goods brought by convoys in September benefitted mainly the rich and the organised forces, without whose armed escorts the convoys would not have arrived.

Foreign relief agencies have stumbled over the necessity to get guarantees from both Khartoum and the SPLA for an airlift to Wau. But aid workers say some long-sighted organisations now are setting up convoys which can bring more food with greater security at one-tenth of the cost.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) tried for months to organise an airlift to Wau, but political difficulties blocked the action in August after just 40 tonnes were flown in — "a drop of water on a scalding stove," ICRC nurse Marilee Jucker said.

The Phantom's pilot, who bailed out along with his navigator, was rescued by Israeli helicopters.

The navigator was captured, apparently by members of the Shiite Amal militia, and was reported on Saturday to have been smuggled away to the Syrian-controlled Bekaa Valley.

The jet was downed from the slope of a hill held by Palestinian fighters and the crewmen landed in orange groves held by Amal fighters.

"I was very happy when I saw the plane explode and then dive down," Abbas said.

"I would have hit more planes," he said confidently. "But I had a malfunction with the missile launcher I was carrying on my shoulder."

"Thursday's raid, the 13th Israeli air strike in Lebanon this year, was aimed at positions of the mainstream Fatah group of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), a few kilometres from the camp.

Egypt-IMF talks enter decisive stage this week

CAIRO (R) — Officials will get down to some hard bargaining with a five-man team from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) this week on Egypt's request for a \$1 billion standby credit.

The IMF gave the green light for negotiations to proceed following executive board meetings in Washington earlier this month. Western diplomats said.

Egypt, with a total foreign debt of \$38.6 billion is seeking a standby credit of \$1 billion in two tranches over two years but diplomats said Cairo might find the IMF's conditions hard to accept.

Egypt might also seek a compensatory financing facility to offset falling revenue from exports, they said. The government says it expects to lose \$1.2 billion this fiscal year from declining oil sales.

The IMF has been pressing Cairo to remove subsidies on food and increase interest rates from 11 to 20 per cent. Cairo had hoped that a recent ban on some imports and moves to unify the exchange rate system would enhance its bargaining position.

The diplomats said Egypt had since proposed doubling domestic energy prices, which are indirectly subsidised, while delaying action on subsidies on basic foods.

President Hosni Mubarak, seeking to ally fears of sudden price rises, has assured the people that Egypt will not raise prices of any commodities or abolish subsidies.

An IMF report praised recent economic measures but suggested that Cairo should make further price adjustments.

Egypt began moves this year to unify the multiple exchange rate by phasing out an "incentive" rate of 0.83 pounds to the dollar in favour of a commercial bank rate which fluctuates around 1.35 pounds to the dollar.

This left a government book-keeping rate of 0.70 pounds, used mainly to calculate public sector exports. The rate on the free market, traditionally a source of hard currency for importers, has been steady at around 1.90 pounds to the dollar.

The diplomats said one of the main topics of discussion would be the time span for introducing a unified exchange rate, with the IMF wanting action within 12 months instead of 18 as Egypt proposed.

It was not clear if Egypt was ready to abolish the 0.70 rate or only move the "floating" commercial bank rate closer to the free market rate.

Central Bank Governor Ali Negm was quoted in the semi-official daily Al-Ahram on Sunday as saying a plan for dealing directly in foreign currency was under study.

Reagan not to link arms control to Soviet Jews

TEL AVIV (R) — Chief U.S. arms negotiator Max Kampelman, briefing Israeli leaders on Sunday on the U.S.-Soviet summit in Iceland, said President Ronald Reagan would not link arms control to emigration of Soviet Jews.

Mr. Kampelman's visit to Israel, the first by a senior arms negotiator, highlighted the increasingly close strategic relationship between the United States and Israel which has agreed to participate in the controversial U.S. "Star Wars" space defence programme.

Mr. Kampelman told a news conference Mr. Reagan had personally handed a list to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev of Soviet Jews whose emigration Washington sought and a longer list was being submitted by the U.S. embassy in Moscow.

However, he stressed that the United States would not make agreements on limiting nuclear weapons conditional on increased emigration by Jews or members of other religious minorities.

He also said he was not aware of any linkage on the Soviet side between arms control and human rights, contradicting allegations by Jewish activists that Moscow was holding Jewish emigration hostage in the nuclear power struggle.

Moscow had insisted that the situation of the estimated 2.5 million Jews in the Soviet Union was none of the United States' or Israel's business.

Mr. Kampelman said the United States remained unenthusiastic about a Middle East peace conference with Soviet participation but this stance might evolve if Moscow restored diplomatic relations with Israel.

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Iranian attack on tanker was 'cold-blooded murder'

SHARJAH (AP) — The Panamanian tanker Five Brooks was intercepted and followed by an Iranian gunboat for several hours before it was rocketed near the Strait of Hormuz in "one of the most savage attacks" in the so-called Iran-Iraq tanker war, according to marine salvage officers.

Details of the raid overnight Friday, in which five crew members were killed, emerged as the survivors arrived in this United Arab Emirates port city. At least eight seamen are still missing.

"From what the crew has reported, this was a cold-blooded murder case," said one Gulf shipping agent, who spoke on condition his name not be used.

He and others said the Iranian gunboat first intercepted the tanker late Thursday night in the southern sector of the Gulf waters, and demanded information on the identity, shipment and destination of the tanker.

The vessel was carrying a load of bunkering fuel from Kuwait for the U.A.E. port of Khor Fakkan. "The gunboat intercepted the Five Brooks several times in the heart of the night, otherwise travelling about four miles parallel to it for some six hours," said one shipping executive, quoting the ship captain's report.

"When the vessel was almost off the Oman coast on its way out of the Strait of Hormuz, the gunboat fired a ship-to-ship rocket into its port side," he said.

Surviving seamen said the rocket set ablaze the Gulf accommodation quarters and the lower deck where five men were trapped in the cabins. Only their charred bones were later found.

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"There was total panic as the fire raged on the ship, because we knew it could blow up because we had highly flammable cargo," said Chief Officer S.A. Hassan, 28, of Karachi, Pakistan.

He said that within seconds of the missile strike, "the entire ship was blanketed in flames and thick smoke. We were choking and couldn't see."

Mr. Hassan said the Five Brooks had been making the Kuwait-Khor Fakkan run nearly every 10 days for the past five years with no problem. He noted that the tanker was hugging the coastline near Oman, which has been neutral and safe water.

The ship's 60-year-old cook, who gave his name as Ramadan, said he has been a sailor for 36 years "and this was the first time I had to abandon ship."

He asked, "Why did this have to happen? I had served them dinner and told them all I would see them in the morning for breakfast. Now many are no more."

Survivors among the 39 crew members abandoned the blazing vessel, and salvage tugboats later brought the fire under control.

The Indian master of the vessel then searched for the missing members of his crew aboard the tanker, while Omani navy vessels scouted the surrounding waters for survivors, said shipping sources.

The 19,925-ton Five Brooks was the latest victim in the so-called Iran-Iraq tanker war.

It was the deepest south in the Gulf that Iran has struck in the six-year war and the closest by Iran to the strategic southern gateway of the Gulf.

Americans lured by false promise of jobs in Gulf

BAHRAIN (AP) — Hussein Al Mudaweb's mail on Sunday contained eight letters from Texas and Louisiana men seeking employment in the Gulf oil fields.

They were the latest of some 200 job applications that have arrived on the Bahraini businessman's desk in the past two weeks addressed to the Al-Mudaweb Oil Drilling Co.

But there is no such company and there are no jobs.

Mr. Mudaweb, 26, manager of a Middle East financial services company, told the Associated Press that at first he thought friends in the United States were playing a practical joke on him.

"But the letters kept coming, and I finally decided I had to find out what was behind this," he said.

Mr. Mudaweb said he telephoned one of the job applicants at random. The man, whom he identified only as David from Texas, told Mudaweb he had paid a Houston employment agency a "fee" of \$385 for the opportunity of applying for a Gulf job and was given Mr. Mudaweb's name and address.

"I don't know how many others have been duped," Mr. Mudaweb

said. "I really feel sorry for these people. I know they are waiting with their families and hoping for jobs that just aren't there."

He noted that Texans and Louisianians were probably susceptible to the scam because a world oil glut and weak prices have forced a retrenching in the American — as well as the Gulf — oil industry.

Mr. Mudaweb said he had asked the U.S. embassy in Bahrain to investigate the situation.

Embassy officials could not immediately be reached for comment.

He told his story this weekend to the English-language Gulf Daily News in Manama and also said he was trying to get in touch with Texas newspapers to warn people of the scam.

"I don't want anybody to get hurt," he said.

Mr. Mudaweb is a manager at the Cashout Company, which issues cards that give members discounts with a number of Middle East retailers. The company, which has been in business since 1979, also is the regional agent for an international travel club.

Downing of Israeli plane was 'dream coming true' for 19-year-old Palestinian

AIN AL HILWEH, Lebanon (R) — A shy green-eyed Palestinian teenager said he had achieved a life-long dream by shooting down an Israeli jet.

"I have always expected and wanted to shoot down an Israeli jet," said Saeed Abbas, 19, credited by comrades with downing the F-4 phantom as it fired rockets at Palestinian positions in South Lebanon on Thursday.

Abbas, posing with pieces of wreckage from the plane and holding an automatic rifle, told Reuters he belonged to the Palestinian "Fatah Revolutionary Council" faction led by Abu Nidal.

"I succeeded in downing the jet because I believe weapons are to be used and not paraded," said Abbas on Saturday, still clutching

the Soviet-made SAM-7 missile launcher he fired during the attack.

The Phantom was the first Israeli aircraft to be downed over Lebanon since Syrian jets hit a reconnaissance plane over the eastern Bekaa Valley in November 1983.

Abbas, soft-spoken with long curly hair and wearing green fatigues, was talking in the garden of an Abu Nidal group office in this Palestinian refugee camp near Sidon.

"Thursday's raid, the 13th Israeli air strike in Lebanon this year, was aimed at positions of the mainstream Fatah group of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), a few kilometres from the camp.

TV & RADIO	
JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 771111-19	18:00 News Summary 18:05 Sports Round-up 18:30 Music 19:00 Newsweek 19:30 Date with a Star 20:00 Evening Show 21:00 News Summary 21:05 Evening Show Cont. 22:00 News Summary 22:05 Evening Show Cont. 23:00 News Summary 23:05 Evening Show Cont. 24:00 Close down
BBC WORLD SERVICE 630, 720, 1223 KHz	06:00 News 06:30 For Whom the Bell Tolls 06:45 Reflections 06:50 Waveguide 07:00 World News 07:05 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 07:30 Nature Notebook 07:45 Recording of the Week 08:00 Newsweek 08:30 The Ring Bang at the Stock Exchange 08:45 World News 09:00 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 09:30 The Betwined 09:45 Book Choice 09:45 Sportsworld 10:00 World News 10:15 To Whom the Bell Tolls 10:30 Anything Goes 11:00 World News 11:05 British Press Review 11:15 Good Books 11:30 Financial News 11:45 Football's Choice 12:00 The News 12:05 at the Stock Exchange 12:15 Sportsworld 12:30 Afro Beat Box 13:00 World News 13:05 News About Britain 13:15 Training for Tomorrow 13:30 African Time 14:00 Radio Newsworld 14:15 Quotations 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:05 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 15:30 The Savory Opera 15:45 Sportsworld 16:00 News Summary 16:05 Outlook 16:45 Chatterbox 17:00 Radio Newsworld 17:15 The Ring Bang at the Stock Exchange 17:30 World News 17:35 To Whom the Bell Tolls 17:50 Anything Goes 18:00 World News 18:05 British Press Review 18:15 Good Books 18:30 Financial News 18:45 Football's Choice 19:00 The News 19:05 at the Stock Exchange 19:15 Sportsworld 19:30 Afro Beat Box 20:00 World News 20:05 News About Britain 20:15 Training for Tomorrow 20:30 African Time 20:45 Radio Newsworld 20:55 Quotations 21:15 Sports Round-up 21:30 World News 21:35 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 21:50 The Savory Opera 22:00 Sportsworld 22:05 Outlook 22:45 Chatterbox 23:00 Radio Newsworld 23:15 The Ring Bang at the Stock Exchange 23:30 World News 23:35 To Whom the Bell Tolls 23:50 Anything Goes 24:00 Close down
RADIO JORDAN 835 KHz AM & 99 MHz FM & partly on 9560 KHz SW Tel: 771111-19	07:00 Light Music 07:30 Newsweek 08:00 Morning Show 08:30 News Summary 09:00 Just a Minute 10:00 News Summary 10:30 News Summary 11:00 News Summary 11:30 Pop Session Cont. 12:00 News Bulletin 12:30 Instrumentals 13:00 French way of Life 13:30 Concert Hour 14:00 News Summary 14:30 Instrumentals 15:00 Old Favourites 16:00 Guzik to the Galaxy 17:00 Pop Session

WHAT'S GOING ON	
TODAY'S EVENTS	MUSEUMS
EXHIBITIONS	FEATURE FILM
PLAY	ARABIC SONGS
VIDEO	CULTURAL CENTRES
PRAYER TIMES	

FOR THE TRAVELLER	
QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	MARITIME TRAFFIC
ARRIVALS	WEATHER
DEPARTURES	MONEY EXCHANGE

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.	
EMERGENCIES	NIGHT DUTY
HOSPITALS	GENERAL
MARKET PRICES	

NEWS IN BRIEF

New premises for CPF open today

AMMAN (Petra) — Under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor, a special ceremony will be held today to inaugurate the new premises of the Cerebral Palsy Foundation (CPF). The foundation was established with the aim of setting up a centre to evaluate preventive measures for cerebral palsy and to offer care to cerebral palsy victims. The foundation started operations in 1977 through a specialised ward at the King Hussein Medical Centre. The foundation's president Fakhri Bilbisi said that the foundation offers its services free of charge to children aged between three months and six years.

Majali chairs Cabinet session

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Cabinet met on Sunday under the chairmanship of Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Wahhab Al Majali and discussed a number of issues on its agenda. No information on the subjects discussed during the Cabinet session was available.

Majali receives Arab ambassadors

AMMAN (J.T.) — Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Prime Ministry Affairs Abdul Wahhab Al Majali on Sunday received the ambassadors of Algeria and Syria to Jordan. Mohammad Dargham and Majid Abu Saleh respectively in separate meetings. The Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported that the two meetings were held at the Prime Ministry but gave no details of the topics discussed between Mr. Majali and Mr. Dargham and Mr. Abu Saleh.

Haj Hassan, Indian envoy discuss labour

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan and Indian Ambassador to Jordan Gurcharan Singh on Sunday discussed issues related to cooperation between the two countries in the field of labour and workers. During the meeting Ambassador Singh presented Mr. Haj Hassan with an invitation from the Indian minister of labour to visit India to exchange views between the Jordanian and Indian labour ministries on labourers and the exchange of expertise.

Most foreign labourers work in Amman

AMMAN (Petra) — A Ministry of Labour statistical bulletin has revealed that 63.8 per cent of the total number of Arab and foreign labourers working in Jordan are in Amman. The bulletin added that 9.1 per cent of foreign labourers work in the Jordan Valley and 7.4 per cent work in Aqaba.

Ministry finds jobs for 611 engineers

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Public Works Mahmoud Al Hawamdeh said that his ministry has found employment for 611 newly-graduated engineers of various specialisations since the beginning of this year in cooperation with a number of ministries, departments, the Jordanian Engineers Association and the Jordanian Contractors Association. Mr. Hawamdeh added that the engineers have been found work at various ministries, departments, companies and village and municipal councils.

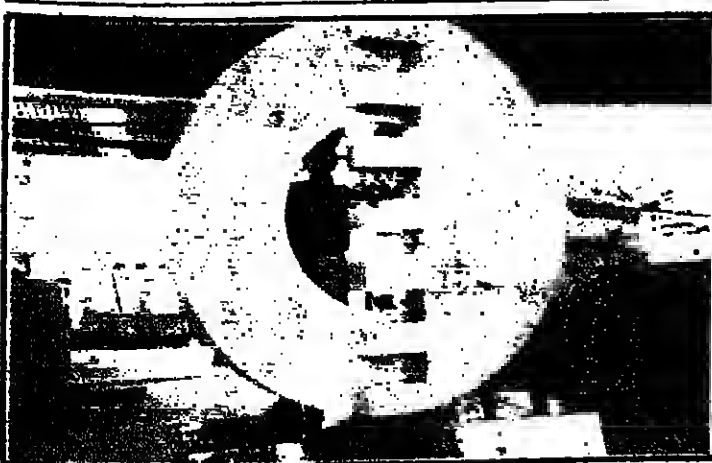
Seminar on mineral springs ends

AMMAN (J.T.) — A seminar on medical tourism and mineral water concluded on Sunday. The seminar, held in cooperation with the Ministry of Tourism, the Ministry of Health and the University of Jordan, discussed mineral springs in Jordan and their uses for medical purposes. Doctors from the University of Jordan, the King Hussein Medical Centre and specialists in the field of natural medicine attended the conference.

Amman police crack ring of passport, document forgers

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordanian police have broken a ring of passport forgers who used falsified Egyptian documents in schemes to swindle businessmen in Amman, according to a report in Al Ra'i Arabic daily newspaper. The report quoted Amman Police Department Director Major General Nasouh Muhieddin as saying that the five-member group had been operating between Amman and Baghdad and that they had been planning to establish a base for further operations in Amman.

According to the report, two members of the gang used a false passport belonging to a third man in the group and succeeded in borrowing a video set, a television set and a number of video tapes from a store in Amman, paying JD 11 and leaving the false passport as a guarantee that they would return the sets. When the men did not show up as promised, the storekeeper reported the matter to the police who immediately set out to look for the men and retrieve the equipment. One of the group turned out to be a second-hand clothes seller in Amman, 31-year-old Jaber Abdul Khamid of Egyptian nationality, who had his photo on the false passport which had been given to the store owner. The man admitted taking part in a number of similar operations with four Egyptian accomplices who were promptly apprehended by the police, according to the report. The five men all admitted that they had received forged passports from a man identified as Mohammad Khamis Hassan who resides in Baghdad.



Mouna Saudi with her three-metre high granite sculpture for the University of Science and Technology.

Monument to science, technology

AMMAN (J.T.) — A three-metre high granite sculpture weighing four tonnes has recently been completed by Jordanian artist Mouna Al Saudi and will be installed at the main campus of the recently-established University of Science and Technology in Irbid. The sculpture has been carved from one whole block of granite and despite its size, it rotates freely on a steel axle that links both the base and the circular

The monument will be placed at the university's main courtyard, near the institution's new buildings which have been designed by Japanese architect Kenzo Tange and constructed by Solico, a Jordanian company chaired by Mr. Abdul Mohsen Qattan. Mr. Qattan commissioned Ms. Saudi to design the monument and the sculpture will be donated by Mr. Qattan to commemorate the university's establishment.

Princess Basma visits Yarmouk centre, inspects facilities for the handicapped

IRBID (Petra) — Her Royal Highness Princess Basma on Sunday visited the Yarmouk Centre for the rehabilitation of disabled persons in Irbid and examined its activities and services. The centre is located at the University of Science and Technology campus where Princess Basma was informed of the different services and the care extended to handicapped children from the governorate.

Princess Basma met with Irbid Governor Mohammad Ali Al Amin, the university's president Dr. Kamel Ajlouni and the dean of the faculty of medicine at the university and other officials. They discussed matters concerning the acceptance of disabled children for

rehabilitation at the centre. Courses of study and the centre's projects. They decided that a dormitory should be made available to accommodate children who come to the centre from remote areas.

Fund donates 3 buses

Towards the end of the meeting, Princess Basma announced she was donating three buses to the centre in her capacity as president of the Queen Alia Social Welfare Fund (QASWF).

Earlier in the day, Princess Basma visited a site on which a community centre will be set up. The site, at Eidoun near Irbid, is 10 dunums in area and the land has been donated by the town's

municipality. The QASWF will contribute to the construction of the centre which is expected to cost JD 600,000. The projected area will have an area of 2,000 square metres and will contain multi-purpose halls, playgrounds, a public garden and other facilities. Princess Basma called at Eidoun charitable society where she opened a nursery and inspected the society's services. The Princess also visited Deir Yusef charitable society where she inaugurated a conference hall and attended a ceremony for the graduation of 21 dress makers who have completed a nine-month training course run by the society. The Princess was accompanied by the governor and other officials.

Arab, foreign experts meet today for symposium on strategic grain storage

AMMAN (Petra) — A four-day symposium on the strategic storage of cereals in the Arab World opens in Amman today under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan. The symposium, which is organised by the Arab Union for Foodstuffs Industries (AUFI) in cooperation with the Ministry of Supply, will discuss several working papers dealing with the production of cereals in the Arab World and their storage as well as cooperation among Arab countries in food industries, processing fodder and other related topics.

Altogether, seven Arab countries and seven foreign nations are expected to participate in the meeting which will also be attended by regional and international organisations.

On the eve of the symposium, AUFI Secretary General Fahal Jaber said that the meeting aims at creating a pan-Arab policy for the strategic storage of cereals sufficient for six months to one year, launching training schemes for personnel involved in this endeavour, and investing funds in storage projects to ensure food supplies around the year to meet any shortage in cereals due to natural calamities or world price fluctuations.

He said that the symposium will also follow up on the

implementation of recommendations and resolutions passed by the first Arab conference on cereals which was held in Amman on July 16, 1983. Arab conferences such as these, he said, are necessary in view of the importance of cereals and grain which have become dangerous economic weapons in the present age. Dr. Jaber continued.

He said Arab self-sufficiency of cereals dropped during the 1970s and early 1980s by 57 per cent, due mainly to a decrease in the volume of crops produced by agricultural units of land. Units of land in the Arab World now produce less than half the average production of any other unit world wide, but the rate of food consumption has recently risen by six per cent annually, coupled by steady population growth. Dr. Jaber pointed out. He warned against the continuation of the present trend and urged Arab states to give due attention to the subject of strategic food storage.

According to Dr. Jaber, world production of cereals rose from 1,397 million tonnes in 1974 to 1,801 million in 1984 and the advanced world's contribution amounted to 52 per cent of the total world production of cereals although the total population of developed nations forms only 20 per cent of the world population.

This clearly reflects the wide gap between cereal production in developed nations and that of the developing nations, and calls for increased efforts for the production of food, Dr. Jaber continued. The symposium, according to Dr. Jaber, will discuss Sudan's food storage experience, the employment of silos in France, scientific research being conducted in Australia on cereal storage techniques, food production programmes in the Arab World, chemical and physical changes which cereals undergo during long storage, modern technology in the establishment of grain silos, means of shipping and unloading food cereals.

Arab countries taking part in the symposium are Jordan, Iraq, Oman, Sudan, the United Arab Emirates, Algeria and Kuwait. Foreign countries represented are Canada, Australia, France, Hungary, Switzerland, East Germany and Poland. Representatives of the Arab Organisation for Agricultural Development, the Arab Organisation for Standardisation and Metrology, the Council of Arab Economic Unity, the Economic Commission for Western Asia and the Arab Agricultural Engineers Federation are also attending.

Cairo to host international talks on advertising

AMMAN (J.T.) — Cairo is expected to host the first international conference on advertising techniques in February 1987. More than 900 advertising professionals from 30 countries are expected to deliver working papers during the conference which is organised and sponsored by the Arab African Promoters for International Conference (AAPIC) in association with the Cairo-based international advertising association and American Express.

As part of a publicity drive for the conference, vice president and creative director of the Tareq advertising agency is currently in Amman for a presentation of the topics to be tackled during the conference and to review its objectives.

The five-day conference involves extensive lectures and a panel on the side-lines dealing with up-to-date technology in advertising and advanced publicity, including audio-visual techniques. A special programme will also be laid on for participants wishing to visit touristic sites in Egypt.

UNRWA directors to review health and education services

AMMAN (Petra) — The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine refugees (UNRWA) opens its general meeting here on Wednesday to discuss health and education services offered to refugees living in Lebanon, Jordan, Syria, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Taking part in the general meeting, which is organised by UNRWA's general headquarters based in Vienna, are the agency's directors of health and educational services in the main headquarters and in the areas of operation.

The meeting aims at drawing up

bases for more coordination between the agency's health and education departments in order to offer better services to Palestinian refugees benefitting from the agency's services.

In a related development, Health Minister Zaid Hamzah will today inaugurate a meeting organised by UNRWA. The minister and directors of the agency's health and education departments in Jordan will discuss issues related to Wednesday's meeting as well as means to evaluate the services offered by the agency to refugees living in camps in Jordan.

Specialists present researches on lung and chest diseases

Britain and the American

University of Beirut. The conference's rapporteur Nayer Abdullah said that participants in the three-day conference will discuss 26 researches on the various chest diseases and their treatment. He added that the conference was aimed at giving Jordanian doctors the opportunity to acquaint themselves with the latest advancements in this field.

University of Beirut.

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Moscow expels 5 American diplomats

(Continued from page 1)

Of the five diplomats listed by TASS, only one — William Norville, a first secretary in the economics section — appears in the current issue of the telephone directory for foreigners living in Moscow.

The other names, transliterated from the Russian-language report, were C. Ehrenfried, G. Longquist and D. Harris of the Moscow embassy, and D. Roberts of the Leningrad consulate.

U.S. hints at retaliation

In Washington White House Chief of Staff Donald Regan hinted Sunday that the United States would retaliate for the expulsion of five American diplomats from the Soviet Union. "I'm disappointed to see that," Mr. Regan said in a broadcast interview about the announcement of the expulsions Sunday from Moscow. "I thought that after Reykjavik (summit), relationships would have

improved somewhat. Nevertheless, we're now going to have to consider taking appropriate action."

Mr. Regan refused to elaborate on what action the United States might take, simply saying: "We'll have to consider what our alternatives are."

Mr. Regan commented in an interview in Washington on the CBS television network's Face The Nation programme.

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, appearing later Sunday on the NBC television network's Meet The Press programme, also hinted that the United States would retaliate for the expulsion of the American diplomats.

"We will protest and we will take some action," Mr. Shultz said, refusing to predict precisely what the response will be.

Later in the CBS programme, in an interview via satellite from Moscow, Mr. Georgy Arbatov, a member of the Soviet Communist Party's Central Committee, said he did not know whether the

expulsion of the Americans was meant as retaliation for the expulsion of the Soviets at the United Nations.

However, he added: "If the Americans say they think there are too many spies in our United Nations mission, we can say that, in our opinion, there are too many spies in the American embassy in Moscow."

He said the expulsions would likely affect overall relations between the Soviet Union and United States after the Iceland summit between U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

"The Americans will (see that) Mr. Gorbachev is a very forthcoming man if he has good partners. But if you behave in such a way he becomes very tough. It can cool down to zero in both countries if you go on this way of retaliation after retaliation."

Mr. Arbatov blamed Mr. Reagan for starting the cycle of expulsions by his order for the Soviets to reduce the size of their UN mission in New York

Sino-Arab dialogue ends with call for further exchanges

Prince Hassan suggests specialised committees continue coordination of efforts between China, Arab World

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Sino-Arab dialogue ended its sessions on Sunday with a call by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan for a continuation of the Arab World's dialogue with China through the establishment of specialised committees on both sides.

Speaking at the closing session of the two-day conference, organised by the Arab Thought Forum (ATF), the Crown Prince called for the adoption of "specific measures" to guarantee the achievement of complementary cooperation between the two sides.

He proposed that a forthcoming dialogue include decision makers as well as intellectuals to widen the base of discussions. A communique issued at the conclusion of the meeting said that participants "maintained that they should make common efforts in taking measures for the preservation of world peace and for the early achievement of peace, justice, and stability in the Middle East region."

The statement said that the participants were of the opinion that they should hold frequent meetings for discussion on the promotion of practical cooperation in political, economic, technological and other aspects between the two sides.

It said that the Chinese delegation extended an invitation to the ATF to attend a similar dialogue in China next year. The ATF accepted the invitation and the exact date for the meeting is to be decided later.

Earlier in the day, Chinese participants in the Sino-Arab dialogue said their country was in the process of establishing a Sino-Arab company to facilitate trade exchange between China and the Middle East.

Commercial councillor at the Chinese embassy here, Mr. Chen Zhongwen, told reporters that the new company, which would be based in Amman, aims at establishing a more permanent commercial link between China and the region.

The conference, which opened Saturday, resumed discussions on finding specific areas for economic cooperation between China and the Arab World and on ways to remove obstacles impeding the development of friendly ties between the two regions.

Speaking at the third session of the conference, Mr. Chen Zhongwen, deputy director of the Institute of West Asian and African Studies at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, said that China has so far established trade relations with most Middle

East countries. "In recent years, China's trade volume with oil-producing countries has increased remarkably," Mr. Chen said. China exports cereals, food, textile, light industrial products, hardware, steel and agricultural machinery. It imports phosphate, chemical fertilisers, cotton and dates from the Arab World.

Mr. Chen said that in 1984, the total import and export value between the two sides reached \$2,503 billion, nearly five per cent of China's total foreign trade that year.

He said that architectural engineering contracts and labour services in the Middle East constitute another important aspect in bilateral economic relations. He said that in the period between 1976 and 1984, China was involved in contracting projects and labour cooperation with Iraq, Kuwait, Jordan, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Egypt, the Yemen Arab Republic, and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, with a total transaction of \$2,05 billion. "The figure accounted for 51.78 per cent of the total amount of China's overseas contracting projects and labour services during the same period."

Mr. Chen pointed out that in the field of finance, China received loans from Kuwait and Jordan, among which the Kuwait Arab Economic Development Fund had provided \$220 million for nine projects in China.

In a paper on China's economic relations with the Arab World, former trade and industry minister Jawad Anani said the trade balance between the Arab World was "unmistakably in favour of China."

He said that China's exports to Arab markets in 1984 were more than four times the value of its imports from Arab countries, resulting in a trade surplus of almost one billion dollars.

The Chinese trade surplus, he said, has also been expanding during the previous decade as Chinese exports to Arab markets were steadily growing while its imports from them have stopped increasing since the mid-seventies.

"As to individual countries," Dr. Anani said, "China has a trade surplus with almost all Arab

countries except Qatar, Bahrain and Sudan. However, its trade deficit with these countries did not exceed \$43 million in 1984, as compared to a surplus of \$1,024 million with the remaining Arab states."

Dr. Anani said that the volume of trade between the Arab World and China was still below its potential level. He said that suppressed trade levels were caused by "a deficiency in Chinese marketing and shipping facilities."

"Sea routes are not regular and this affects to a great degree the reliability of deliveries from China to the Arab World," he said. "Moreover, Chinese merchants and manufacturers insist on selling large volumes. This is not in line with the nature of Arab demand."

In his proposals to the Chinese delegates to the ATF meeting, Dr. Anani said there was a need for the establishment of a counter trade arrangement between the Arab World and China.

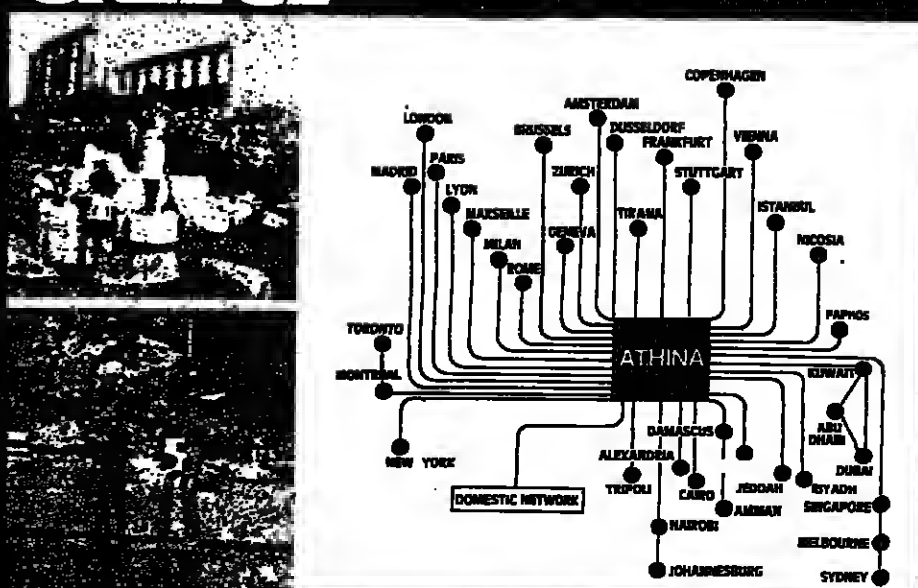
"The operations of major Arab banks in China should facilitate this process," he said, adding that with the expected decline in Arab economic activity at large and in revenues in particular, counter trade becomes a feasible prospect. The Arabs could sell oil, fertilisers, petrochemicals and even natural gas to China in return for Chinese intermediate, consumer and capital goods, he continued.

In his paper, Dr. Anani said that in the field of services, "the scope is still wide open. Contracting is a potential that promises greater expansion." He said that joint venture companies could be established, using Arab capital and Chinese labour, for implementing projects in third countries. He said the two parties could, for example, enhance their cooperation in shipping.

On a concluding note, Dr. Anani said: "The possibilities of cooperation are ample. Yet, the proper formula is still missing. The 1960-1985 experience in economic cooperation is not well-behaved so as to derive a clear-cut trend useful for an insight into the future. The future of economic relations should rest on a thorough analysis of the expected changes in the future itself."

Participating in the dialogue, Ali Ghandour, chairman of the board of Royal Jordanian airline, said cooperation between China and the Arab World could not be developed without the establishment of communication channels in various fields. "So far, no Arab airline flies to China," he said pointing out that a group of representatives of Arab carriers were currently negotiating with concerned Chinese authorities for passenger transport.

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Promising effort

SAUDI Arabia's renewed effort to reconcile differences between Syria and Iraq is a good and welcome development. The state of paralysis in which joint Arab action is buried has gone on for too long now, and unless Arab leaders take the initiative to change the bleak picture, there is not going to be any sort of Arab action to even talk about later.

While the contents of the letter which Crown Prince Abdullah Ibn Abdul Aziz has carried from King Fahd to President Assad on Oct. 18 are still unknown, much is already known about the anxieties felt by Saudi Arabia and the other Arab Gulf countries about the imminent large-scale Iranian offensive against Iraq which Tehran threatens practically every day.

It is the judgment of the Arab Gulf countries that Syria may hold the key to Arab and international efforts to stop the six-year-old Gulf war. They also realise that the aspired-to Syrian goodwill efforts are organically linked to the issue of Syrian-Iraqi relations. The obstacles facing the Arab League reconciliation committee headed by Crown Prince Abdullah are indeed formidable. But the weight of Saudi Arabia is equally formidable, and when this is coupled with other Arab efforts, one may expect a series of positive steps which could lead to a situation where Baghdad and Damascus are again on talking terms and well on the path to genuine reconciliation.

A meeting between the Syrian and Iraqi foreign ministers, which His Majesty King Hussein had tried to set up last June with Saudi backing, was put off at the last minute. But it is a well-known fact that Jordan's good and brotherly relations with both Syria and Iraq are being put to good use as a complementary diplomacy to the Saudi effort with a view to accelerating the rapprochement between Baghdad and Damascus.

At a time when the Iranian-Israeli connection is becoming more and more obvious, whether in explicit cooperation or through parallel strategic interests, one would hope that a realignment of positions among Arab capitals would emerge soon. The fact that Syria is on record as expressing total opposition to any Iranian attack on the Arab Gulf countries or occupation of any Arab territory is certainly a good and solid foundation on which we can construct future Arab relations vis-a-vis the Gulf war.

It would seem therefore clear that an opening is already available for a greater Syrian involvement in efforts to stop the Iran-Iraq war from first, spilling over to the other parts of the Gulf, and secondly, to use this declared Syrian position as a springboard for further positive steps on the road to bring the war to a complete halt.

No matter what happens, our hope remains the same: Baghdad and Damascus must be together on one side, and that is the side of all Arabs fighting against their common enemies and for their common cause.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Arab-Sino relations

THE Arab-Sino dialogue which was opened in Amman yesterday by Crown Prince Hassan is bound to contribute to fruitful cooperation between the Arab Nation and China, both of which boast a civilisation rooted in ancient and present times. The dialogue of course, goes beyond historical events and aims at achieving a brighter future for relations between both sides through cooperation and mutual coordination that aim at promoting the cause of peace, stability and world security. China, being a major power and a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council, can play a leading role in world politics, and can be of great help to the Arabs in their drive to regain their usurped territory and rights. Cooperation between the two sides can be directed towards preventing the superpowers from imposing hegemony on developing nations and towards the employment of modern technology for progress and prosperity. The Arab Thought Forum, which has opened the way for a greater Arab-Sino cooperation, ought now to follow the course of sound planning for brighter future relations between the two sides with more efforts and endeavours, and through open minds. The dialogue in Amman is perhaps the first step for transforming Sino-Arab relations into a modern power, and joint fruitful cooperation, benefiting the Arab and Chinese nations.

Al Dustour: Historical relations, promising future

IN his opening address at the Arab-Sino dialogue held at the Arab Thought Forum, Prince Hassan emphasised the importance of bolstering relations between the Arab Nation and China. He said that the two nations have had strong historic relations based on trade and culture over 13 centuries; and this should prompt them to pursue efforts for maintaining and strengthening this relationship even further. In the past, the Arabs benefited from Chinese culture which they carried to Europe; and both sides cooperated in exchanging trade and in furthering mutual interests. These two nations, as Prince Hassan said, can now pursue their efforts and play a leading role on the international scene. The Arabs, of course, appreciate China's efforts and continued support for their just causes and their backing of the rights of the Palestinian people, and they now ought to step up efforts for bolstering their friendship with China, a major world power that can help them bring about peace to the Middle East. China can also help in bringing an end to the Iraq-Iran war which has been shaping Arab resources, and can promote its technological, cultural and economic relations with the Arab countries. The Arab Thought Forum has thus opened the door for greater cooperation between the two sides and we are optimistic that the future will witness stronger ties of friendship and fruitful cooperation.

Sawt Al Shaab: Hopes for reconciliation

CURRENT efforts to end inter-Arab differences have now entered a new stage with the arrival of Saudi Prince Abdullah Ibn Abdul Aziz in Damascus at the start of a tour that also will take him to Baghdad and perhaps other Arab capitals for the sake of reviving reconciliation among Arab leaders. Both Syria and Iraq are confronting common enemies of the Arab Nation and both strive hard to defend Arab territory. As Iraq is involved in a major conflict with Iran, in defence of Arab sovereignty and territory, Syria continues to face constant Israeli threats. The Arab countries around watch with concern over the future of their nation, and the Arab masses are hoping that their leaders would finally come to term, end their differences and launch fruitful cooperation for their nation. The Arabs realise that only through solidarity can they stand powerful in the face of their enemies, and only through unity and rallying of ranks can they achieve their aspired goals. For this reason, Jordan looks forward to improved relations among Arab states, and strongly backs all efforts for achieving reconciliation and understanding among Arab leaders. Visits by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai to Kuwait and the Saudi Prince to Damascus, form part of the joint Arab efforts aimed at this reconciliation. Let us hope these efforts will be crowned with success.

Strategic parity: Myth and reality

By Dr. Waleed Sa'di

THE talk about strategic parity between the "confrontational Arab states" and Israel has become a political mode in our region. There is now a consensus emerging that for peace efforts to succeed, whether under or above the United Nations umbrella, there must exist an equilibrium in strength between Israel and the Arab States directly concerned with the Arab-Israeli struggle. The divergence of expert opinion ensues, however, on the follow up issue, namely, whether in fact such strategic equilibrium or parity between the two antagonists is woefully lacking and needs eventual rectification, or that the contrary is true.

No one can really quarrel with the assessment that for peace or war the Arab side must attain strategic equilibrium with Israel. What one can quarrel with is the continued assumption upheld in Arab mind and psyche that, in the past, present and immediate future, the balance of power is in favour of Israel and therefore the Arabs at this point in time cannot successfully wage peace or war, and must therefore await substantive rectification of the power equation with Israel.

Certainly the determination of power and strength is a highly technical question and requires accurate data for its measurement. Obviously also laymen must approach this subject with great care and caution, and must refrain from passing judgments on it without reservations. But for our purposes in the Middle East, barring the issue of nuclear capabilities of the two sides, there are ample data and information that could serve as a basis for general analysis and determination.

In traditional terms, strategic parity is measured by many factors that include geographic, demographic and economic considerations in addition to sophisticated arms and high technology equipment. On the foregoing basis, the Arab side comes out way ahead of Israel on three counts and comes out a little less than even on the point of

sophisticated armaments, though way ahead on size and numbers. The overall picture would appear to be favourable to the Arab side — a matter which suggests that what defeated the Arabs on issues of war and peace with Israel is something not truly related to strategic parity or the lack of it. This assessment, I suggest, is true with regard to all three major wars fought between the relevant Arab states and Israel.

In 1948 war, no one in his right mind could suggest that the Arab side was inferior to the Israelis in terms of strategic balance. The Jewish population in Palestine then was less than a million confronted by almost 50 millions of Arabs and cornered in a tiny stretch of land which by all military standards was indefensible. Nor was the armament available to the Israelis then superior to Arab armament, albeit Arab weaponry was little and ineffective. Whatever the differences in armament between the two sides, it was of marginal importance and did not by itself prejudice the war outcome. Yet, the Israelis had beaten the Arab side and one cannot in all fairness suggest that the disparity between the two sides in terms of strategic equilibrium was to blame.

The war of 1967 with Israel was not different from that of 1948. What applies to the 1948 war applies in substance to the war of 1967. Again, one notices the ostensible disparity between the Arab side and the Israelis in terms of population, geography and armament. Even the alliances between Israel and its allies could be shaken and weakened if the Arab world gains strength from within and stature from without. Alliances, even if of strategic nature are not permanent edifices and are subject to change in reaction to developments within the Arab World. Besides, the Arab side is not really short on allies on both sides of the fence.

Yet, the results of 1948 were repeated and obviously for the same substantive reasons which I submit do not touch on the immediate

scope of strategic parity. The same outcome was repeated in the 1973 war. What started to be a winnable war by the Syrians and Egyptians turned into a no-win war for reasons which fall outside the traditional scope of strategic parity. Even at the present time, one cannot argue correctly and truthfully that the Arab side lacks strategic balance with Israel. What could defeat them now on the negotiating table or battle field is something not related to strategic disparity between the Arabs and Israel. The cause of their defeats is something that most Arabs feel and know deep in their hearts and minds. The cause is made of many things which in their cumulative effect and context transform potential Arab power into actual weakness. It is almost a civilisation crisis from which the Arab World has yet to emancipate itself. It is a multidimensional imbroglio which awaits redress and rectification. On the top of the list of ills which have afflicted the Arab World is the political division at the inter-Arab level as well as at the intra-level. As the late Prime Minister Sherif Abdul Hamid Sharaf once remarked, the Arab World suffers woefully from the lack of developed institutions in practically all walks of life. What is urgently needed is a ten years development plan in areas other than economy.

In summation it remains within the reach of Arabs to rise to power and strength. It lies within their grips the ability to transform potential strength to actual power in various areas and domains. Israeli nuclear capability notwithstanding, with political will and determination, the Arab World can rise up to the challenges facing it, whether regionally or internationally. The secret formula is how to harness potential strength into orderly and discriminate exercise of power. And the way to do just that is to recruit the best minds in the Arab countries as well as in the diaspora for the purpose of charting our collective course for the future.

Britain closes the last gate to the empire at short notice

By Robert Glass

The Associated Press

LONDON — Heathrow Airport resembled an Asian refugee camp last week after 3,000 passengers from Bangladesh, India and Pakistan poured in trying to beat a deadline for them to enter Britain without visas.

Working full out, harried immigration officers cleared most of the paperwork backlog created by the sudden influx Tuesday, and by the weekend only about 50 relatives and friends were still camping out in arrival halls awaiting news.

But Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's government was left to fend off charges of racism and bureaucratic bungling over the new visa rule, which applies to the Indian subcontinent and two African countries, Ghana and Nigeria, and was put into force with eight days' official notice.

Government officials said the visas were needed to relieve congestion and delays caused by airport immigration checks. They said the five nations were singled

out because about half all illegal aliens come from those countries.

But Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi called it an extension of Britain's "racist policies" toward the Commonwealth, the 49-nation association of Britain and its former colonies and territories.

Reflecting outrage in some quarters, London's liberal Guardian newspaper said: "The scenes of chaos, misery and frustration at Heathrow Airport... shame us all. They are not the way a civilised nation should behave."

The new visa requirement went into force at midnight Tuesday for travellers from the Indian subcontinent, Nigeria and Ghana are to be included later.

The government says the programme will cost £14 million (\$20 million) a year in administrative costs and extra staff at embassies. The visas cost £14 (\$20) each.

In a rush to beat the deadline, passengers from the Indian subcontinent arrived at Heathrow in waves, swamping immigration facilities.

Television footage showed a bedraggled army of turbaned men and women garbed in saris lined up at information desks. Women changed their babies' diapers on the floor of restrooms. Hundreds of relatives and friends camped out in arrival halls for days while the arrivals were being processed.

Officials at the home office, in charge of immigration, said 768 of the estimated 3,000 arrivals were detained initially at the airport or nearby police stations for further checks. The government, however, provided free hotel accommodations for most families with young children.

By Saturday, 185 of the arrivals — mostly young Bangladeshis — had been sent home, but officials said 20 absconded.

Touring the airport at midweek, David Waddington, the home office minister responsible for immigration, said:

"This system of clearance at the controls was devised to deal with an entirely different situation and not to cope with one where hundreds and hundreds of young men whose credentials for entry

were, to say the least, very suspect, suddenly arrived in this country."

The visa requirement is the latest in a series of laws and regulations enacted by Britain over the past 30 years to restrict immigration from the poor, underdeveloped nations of its former empire.

A shrinking post-World War II job market has meant ever-tighter controls to keep out illegal aliens. With unemployment now at 11.6 per cent, there is widespread support for the government's stance.

The continuing clamour for entry to Britain, both for visits and permanent settlement, "is almost a necessary consequence of Britain's imperial past, and in that sense a responsibility Britain has to face up to," says Dr. Anthony Howe, a lecturer in international history at the London School of Economics.

"The immigration problem is exacerbated in periods of economic decline," Howe said in an interview. "With fewer opportunities, resentment is likely to be heightened."

Of Britain's 57 million people, an estimated 2.4 million are non-white, mostly post-war immigrants and their descendants from Asia, Africa and the West Indies.

Margaret Michie, a spokeswoman for the government-funded Commission for Racial Equality, said the agency did not object to visa requirements, but to the way immigration controls have been directed mainly at non-whites.

A 1985 report by the commission found that only one in 4,100 visitors from Canada, New Zealand and Australia was refused entry, compared with one in 140 blacks and Asians. In addition, it found that non-whites from Commonwealth countries were delayed at ports of entry nine times longer than visitors from Western Europe and were 30 times more likely than Americans to have restrictions placed on them.

"While we can't comment on whether the 1981 (nationality) act is discriminatory, we can definitely state its practices and procedures, have

disproportionate effect on different groups," Ms. Michie said.

Government officials said, however, that the new visa regulation was not aimed directly at cutting down on immigration overall but rather easing airport congestion, especially at Heathrow, the world's busiest airport for international flights.

A total of 260,000 residents of India, Bangladesh and Pakistan were allowed into Britain as visitors last year, but 5,000 others were refused entry on suspicion they intended to stay permanently.

The Home Office said that of the 27,100 people denied entry last year, 53 per cent were from the Indian subcontinent and Nigeria and Ghana.

Government officials denied there was any racial basis for the new visa rules, and noted that four of the five countries affected required visas of British visitors. The fifth, Bangladesh, announced in response to the new rule it would require Britons to obtain visas beginning next year.

Kashmir remains bone of contention in India-Pakistan ties

By Chaitanya Kalbag

Reuters

NEW DELHI — When Australia played a cricket match against India in Srinagar recently, guards and barbed wire ringed the stadium and many townspeople celebrated the Australian victory with fireworks.

Posters in the tourist town, capital of the north Indian state of Jammu and Kashmir, said: "Kashmir is a disputed territory and no international event can take place here."

The match took place but the emotions aroused highlighted the divided loyalties common among Kashmiris, who live on either side of a ceasefire line splitting the mountainous territory into Indian and Pakistani sectors.

Kashmir, the only state in largely Hindu India with a majority Muslim population, is at the heart of suspicion and hostility between India and Pakistan, which have fought three wars

since independence in 1947, two of them over the former princely state.

Neither side accepts as permanent a ceasefire line drawn after the first war in 1949 which left one-third of the mountainous territory in Pakistan and the rest in India.

Islamabad calls its part of the territory "azad" (free) Kashmir while New Delhi terms it "Pakistan-occupied Kashmir."

Their troops often exchange fire along the frontier, known as the "line of actual control" after a bilateral agreement signed following the last war in 1971.

Indian policy in the strategic territory, which also borders China, has been dominated by fears that most Kashmiris secretly want to merge with Muslim Pakistan.

Fundamentalist Muslim groups on both sides of the frontier question the accession to India decreed by Kashmir's Hindu

ruler, Maharaja Hari Singh, in 1947 when the subcontinent was partitioned at independence.

A 1949 United Nations resolution called for a plebiscite to decide Kashmir's future, but the referendum has never been held.

At the centre of the trouble is the Kashmir valley, 95 per cent Muslim, which with its Himalayan peaks and tranquil lakes dotted with houseboats boasts some of the most spectacular scenery in the world.

Last month the valley was disturbed by three days of rioting following the arrest of seven fundamentalist Muslim leaders under the state's public safety act.

One of them, Syed Ali Shah Geelani, who heads the Jamaat-E-Islami group, told an interviewer he would not settle for anything less than accession to Pakistan.

"Because the majority of the people are Muslims, instead of remaining with Hindu India we

should join Pakistan, a Muslim country where our religion, our culture are safe," said Geelani, who has been frequently imprisoned for his views.

His view was echoed by Pakistani Prime Minister Mohammed Khan Junejo, who told a rally at Muzaffargarh, capital of the Pakistani-administered sector of the territory, that Kashmiris should be able to "choose their destiny through a free vote."

The stalemate has brought prolonged political tension in Jammu and Kashmir.

On September 7 New Delhi imposed direct rule on the state. The state government had already been replaced by a governor's administration in March after failing to quell a wave of anti-Hindu riots across the valley.

The crisis erupted in July 1984 when the state's chief minister Farooq Abdullah, accused of

protecting "secessionist" groups, was toppled and replaced by a minority government headed by his brother-in-law Ghulam Shah and backed by then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Congress (I) Party.

To New Delhi's consternation, fundamentalist groups appeared to gain strength under Shah's rule. Rajiv Gandhi, Indira Gandhi's son and successor as prime minister, has held talks with Abdullah to try to mend fences.

But that has angered many Kashmiris, who accuse Abdullah of selling out to New Delhi.

Abdullah, a doctor educated in Britain, came to power in 1983 after the death of his father Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah, known as "the lion of Kashmir."

The charismatic sheikh was imprisoned for long periods between 1953 and 1972 because of differences with Indian leaders over the degree of autonomy which Kashmir should be granted. In 1975, Indira Gandhi handed

back power to the sheikh in a dramatic end to years of confrontation.

Last month when Abdullah returned from a pilgrimage to Mecca, he was accused of holding talks in the Saudi Arabian capital, Jeddah, with Sikander Hayat Khan, leader of the Pakistani sector of Kashmir.

Abdullah said they had met accidentally at a banquet hosted by Saudi King Fahd. "The time has come when you should have more faith in Farooq Abdullah," he told reporters. "I may be a Muslim, but I am an Indian Muslim."

In an assessment of the situation, the editor of the Statesman newspaper wrote recently that the political impasse and absence of a popular government in Kashmir had weakened ties with New Delhi.

"Like it or not, about 90 per cent of the people in the (Kashmir) valley feel alienated from India," he said.

Ex-rebel leads Brazil's Greens into electoral battle

By Stephen Powell

Reuters

RIO DE JANEIRO — A former Brazilian rebel turned ecologist is leading the country's newly-formed Green Party into electoral battle, making a determined bid for the governorship of Rio de Janeiro State.

Political commentators give Fernando Gabeira only an outside chance of success, but his campaign has caught the attention of the public and the media and injected an element of novelty into South American politics.

In an interview with Reuters at campaign headquarters, a small bustling office at the top of a steep cobbled street in one of Rio's older districts, Gabeira said he believed his was the first Green Party on the continent.

Politicians of his persuasion are usually associated with non-violence and certainly today he stresses his peaceful approach to social problems.

But Gabeira, a soft-spoken intellectual whose eyes twinkle good-humouredly behind his glasses, first came to prominence in 1969 when his leftist MR-8 guerrilla group kidnapped the United States ambassador to Brazil.

Elbrick, was released unharmed after a few days, but the abduction led to a spate of kidnappings of diplomats in South America. And for Gabeira, it led to long years of exile.

After the kidnap, Brazilian police soon caught up with him. "In January 1970," said Gabeira, "I was shot in the back by police in Sao Paulo. I lost part of my stomach and of my kidneys." He was freed nearly six months later when the government released 40 political prisoners to secure the freedom of the kidnapped West German ambassador to Brazil.

"I then lived almost 10 years in exile — in Cuba one-and-a-half years, in Germany working in Berlin. I was in Chile and Paris, but most of my exile I spent in Stockholm, where I drove underground trains and worked as a night porter in hotels to survive."

He returned to Brazil in 1979, when the country's military rulers were taking a more liberal political line.

A journalist by profession, he made a living by his pen. Only now is he entering electoral politics, at the age of 45.

The military returned the country to civilian rule last year, after 21 years in power, and Brazilians vote in national elections on November 15 to elect

municipal councillors.

Rio de Janeiro, with 13 million people the third most populous state in Brazil, is one of the most closely-watched political tussles.

In an opinion poll published on September 19 Gabeira was running second out of eight candidates. He had 13 per cent, against 29 per cent for Wellington Moreira Franco of the ruling centre-left coalition parties. More than a third of voters were still undecided.

Gabeira put himself in the running after a recent television debate among candidates. Viewers rated him the best debater and his campaign took off. Newspapers gave him ample coverage and his impish face adorns the front covers of Brazilian news magazines.

He puts the environmental issues faced by this vast country covering half of South America squarely and simply.

He told Reuters: "The ecological problems of Brazil are very serious. We have the biggest forest in the world to protect — Amazonia. We also have the most polluted town in the world — Cubatao."

The rape of the forests in Amazonia has long been a source of international concern but increasing environmentalists have

industrial pollution.

A report published last year with funding from the United Nations environment programme described Cubatao near Sao Paulo as "one of the most polluted industrial centres on earth."

Many of Gabeira's concerns are necessarily different from those of European ecologists, given the widespread poverty in Brazil. If elected, he says one of his top priorities will be to try to tackle the glaring problem of the many Brazilian children who live in a state of virtual abandon.

"There are seven million children in Brazil just living on the streets," he said. "In Rio de Janeiro State alone, there are 700,000 such children."

"We are trying to deal with this problem directly. We are going to contract teachers to work in the streets with them."

Gabeira's party, which has yet to be officially registered, sees sanitation conditions, unemployment, the city's crime wave and nuclear energy as other big electoral issues.

Because the Green Party does not yet have a legal existence, it has formed a coalition with the Workers' Party. Gabeira is standing in the November poll as a candidate of the Workers' Party, led by Brazil's best-known trade union leader, Luis Ignacio Lula da

LETTERS

Yes to simple nostalgia, but ...

To the Editor:

I READ with keen interest Randa Habib's corner entitled "Simple Nostalgia" (Jordan Times Oct. 13, 1986). I also heartily agreed with the article until I came upon the closing sentence ... "After all, who needs this kind of development?" We do! Jordan definitely does!

As a country, a nation of people, Jordan needs this development to be recognised for what it is; a growing country with a future of hope and prosperity. Not just another Third World nation of unknown identity. Between the lines of the article Miss Habib seems to imply that ignorance and seclusion are the keys to a happy and content society. I think not! Would she like Jordanians to be referred to as "the people who don't know any better"? I certainly hope not. For, through the invention of travel and acquaintance, Jordan is a country slowly becoming recognised with other worthy nations. I agree with her when she states that the desire for material acquisitions, within the community for personal satisfaction, grows. However, that is not to be taken for a sign of the country's material development, but a sign of human nature evidenced since the days of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden, (the very first days of mankind).

I regret to encounter views which express, or seem to express, opposition to growth and modernisation in Jordan. The beauty and charm of our country lie not just with its size. Size is a temporary property that can be augmented and decreased at will. Customs, morals, and culture make Jordan what it is. These properties deeply engraved within the country whether the population is 1,000 or 100,000. These are traits embedded in the Jordan by the people — not the fancy buildings, enlarged road system, nor the better quality of living being experienced by Jordanians. So, next time Miss Habib thinks to herself, "Jordan needs this kind of development?" ... please think again.

Randa

Soyinka's writings emphasise 'ceaseless striving' ...

By Judith Agosti
The Associated Press

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast — Nigerian writer Wole Soyinka, winner of the 1986 Nobel Prize for Literature, has been widely acclaimed as Africa's greatest writer in the English language.

Soyinka, 52, is best known as a dramatist, but has also written poetry, memoirs, critical essays and novels. His themes include politics and philosophy, myth and the everyday dilemmas of everyday life.

Nigerian theatre critic Biodun Jeyifo once noted the mixture of mythical and realistic elements in Soyinka's writings:

"Notions, conceptions, symbolic actions and relations are all lifted clean from their material, historical contexts and fused into an ideal world-view whose coherence is purely conceptual."

he wrote in the book, "Myth, Literature and the African World."

"Thus for Soyinka the labour of the gods in the cosmos, which the myths recount, and their ambiguous relationships with mortals, reveal ideal ethical and social paradigms for Africa, now and for all time," Jeyifo wrote.

Gerald Moore in "Twelve African Writers," explained the philosophy expressed in Soyinka's synthesis of African mythology and modern dilemmas:

"In Soyinka, it seems, the heroic gesture is an assertion of will which has value, whether it succeeds in its objective or not," he wrote. "For him, as for the German poet Goethe, it is ceaseless striving rather than actual achievement which marks the hero."

"In a world where most of mankind is blindly intent upon

repeating the follies and crimes of the past, it is the hero-artist alone who hazards his own existence in one desperate effort to disturb the cycle of fate, to alter in some way the repetitive pattern of events."

In Moore's view, Soyinka's works reflect a traditional Yoruba view of the world and the task of the gods within that world. The Yoruba are one of Nigeria's major ethnic groups.

Soyinka modernised that view and politicised it in writing of a country that has survived a succession of coups d'état, purges, a war of secession, and economic turmoil since its independence in 1960.

"Soyinka has always been a spokesman for political commitment, right from his involvement in the 1965 political crisis in western Nigeria to his championship of pan-Africanism, the Swahili language and

intellectual freedom," Moore wrote.

In the poem "Season of Anarchy," dedicated to former Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere, Soyinka expresses some of his political vision:

*Sweat is heaven for the earth
Not tribute. Earth repays
Sweat is heaven for the earth
Not driven homage to a
fortressed god.*

*Your black earth hands unchain
Hope from death messengers,
from
In-bred dogmatoids that prove
Grimmer than the grim reaper,*

*insatiate
Predators on humanity, their
Jodder.*

*Sweat is heaven, bread, Ujamaa
Bread of the earth, by the earth
For the earth. Earth is all people.*

Soyinka's drama, "A Dance of the Forests," presented for the first time on Nigerian independence day in 1960, warned Nigerians and all Africans to avoid repeating the mistakes that had been made during their colonisation.

Later, he became a vehement critic of the post-independence African leaders. "Kongi's Harvest," the last play he wrote before the outbreak of the Nigerian civil war, condemned the recklessness of those leaders.

In the novel, "The Interpreter," he criticises Nigerian society. But the critique is expressed in vivid metaphors:

"...For it was his first glimpse as a child, there was his excited rush to bathe his feet in sea water, succeeding against the frantic caution of his aunt who lay tired under the moon and shut her eyes for too long a brief moment. And

he had thought it strange that she who took to air so freely should live in such terror of the sea. Just stay near me and let the white fringe come and lick your feet. Wait right here and the water will come to you." But he ran far away from the sleeping figure... He wanted the water up to his knees, not merely on his toes. As the water retreated the aunt caught up and her blow catapulted him into the very danger from which she had sought to protect him."

In "The Emergence of African Fiction," Charles R. Larson wrote that what makes Soyinka's work unique is a "willingness to fall back on the past as a solution for present-day social and political problems" and his interest "in the current-day scene, the immediate."

Soyinka is the first African to win the Nobel.

... leftist politics and difficult prose

LAGOS (R) — Playwright and novelist Wole Soyinka, who on Thursday became the first African author and the first black to win the Nobel Literature Prize, is one of Nigeria's best-known authors despite a dense and complex literary style.

His writing is in English but is steeped in the culture of his Yoruba ethnic group, of which he says: "It influences my critical response to other cultures."

A private, almost reclusive man, he resigned his chair this year at the University of Ife, where he was professor of comparative literature. Friends said he was tired of the squabbling between faculties which disrupted his writing.

He spends much of his time in the United States although he takes care not to advertise his whereabouts. But last month he attended a ceremony in Lagos when he was made a member of the U.S. Academy of Arts and Letters.

He was only the third African to be so honoured, the others being

Nigerian novelist Chinua Achebe and former Senegalese President-poet Leopold Senghor.

A dramatist, theatre director, fiction writer, poet, social critic and orator, Soyinka was once described by an art critic as "a foundation stone of the African literary establishment."

Soyinka's plays trace Africa's politics from pre-colonial times through to the post-independence era, showing an ever-repeating cycle of rough and rugged paths.

During Nigeria's 1967-70 civil war, the author played the role of unsuccessful peacemaker, crossing into breakaway Biafra and appealing to rebel leaders to renounce secession.

The appeal went unheeded and, after returning to the side of the Nigerian government, he suffered two years' detention.

His novel "The Man Died," appearing after the Biafran war, was promptly banned by the authorities.

Nigerian writers marvel at his ability to fascinate despite his

difficult style. But critics of his literary methods, point to "The Interpreters", a fictional work which many people have found daunting to read.

Born on July 13, 1934, Soyinka attended University at Ibadan in Nigeria and Leeds in England and spent 18 months as a playwright at London's Royal Court Theatre in the late 1950s.

He returned to Nigeria and formed a theatre group called the 1960 Masks which won instant popularity in post-independent Nigeria. He was later to form another group, the Orisun Theatre, which performed several Yoruba-rooted plays.

As a literary arts professor, Soyinka taught literature and theatre in the Nigerian universities of Lagos, Ibadan and Ife.

Soyinka is also well known for his outspoken and critical stance on political issues.

He took an open ideological stand when he wrote a collection of poems, "Ogun Abibima,"

which he dedicated to Samora Machel, now president of Mozambique but then leading the Marxist Frelimo guerrilla group against Portuguese rule.

Much of the 1970s were spent outside the country, including a year as visiting professor at Cambridge University in England but he has been back in Nigeria for most of the 1980s.

He became involved with politics directly in 1980, supporting the leftist Peoples Redemption Party. It was banned along with other Nigerian parties when the military returned to power in a coup in December 1983.

Soyinka followed the military's return to power in his country critically and voiced concern its clampdown on dissent.

In 1983, Soyinka ventured into the field of cinema and produced a political satire "Blues for the Prodigal," based on Nigeria's contemporary experience. It was seized by the authorities and returned after being doctored.



Wole Soyinka celebrating last Thursday

Modern pirates still infest oceans haunted by ancestors

By Joy Aschenbach

National Geographic

WASHINGTON — Aboard the Falcon Countess, both the captain and the crew believed their ship had cleared the danger zone in the pirate-infested Strait of Malacca, the busy trade route linking the Indian Ocean and the South China Sea.

Then the pirates appeared, armed with knives and bayonets. They swarmed aboard, bound the captain, and made off with \$20,000 from the ship's safe.

Off the west coast of Africa, pirates steal everything that's not nailed down, according to a German sea captain. In a South American port, a Danish captain was warned not to sleep in his cabin while at anchor because of the peril of pirates.

These are not tales from the swashbuckling days of yore, when the likes of Captain Kidd, Blackbeard, and Barbary pirates roamed the seas. The Falcon

Countess, a merchant vessel leased to the U.S. military, was attacked last year.

"Pirate watches" are routinely posted on ships navigating the narrow straits of Malacca and Singapore; alert crews fight off today's pirates by washing them overboard with fire hoses.

Lurking in many of the same haunts of old, pirates are serious problem in the 1980s. At least one act of piracy occurs every day somewhere in the world.

That rate includes all forms of sea piracy, from the most savage — the rape and murder of Vietnamese refugees fleeing across the Gulf of Thailand — to the seizing of yachts and other pleasure boats for drug-running in the Caribbean and Gulf of Mexico.

"Piracy is a phenomenon that comes and goes," says Gerhard O.W. Mueller, professor of criminal justice at Rutgers University.

"There have been 12 major eras of piracy since ancient Phoenician

times," Mueller says. "The current one started in the mid-1970s, reached its crest in 1980-81, and has continued at that high level."

It's not the Jolly Roger, eye-patch-and-parrot, high-seas piracy," says Peter Kidman of the London-based International Maritime Bureau, set up in 1980 by the International Chamber of Commerce to monitor the growing wave of maritime fraud, which includes "paper-and-paintbrush" piracy as well as the more traditional type.

But like earlier buccaners, today's pirates are often after loot that can be easily carried off — jewellery, money, and personal valuables. They prowled poorly patrolled, often politically disputed waters off weak coastal countries. They frequently attack in seas dotted with islands that provide convenient hideouts.

They come from astern in high-speed motorboats, usually at night. They throw grappling hooks over the stern, shiny up ropes, hold the crew at gunpoint, rob the

safe and steal personal valuables, then disappear over the side.

This is typical when the target is a cargo ship or tanker, says Daniel J. Dzurek, a State Department geographer who has studied piracy worldwide.

Piracy against commercial vessels is the most geographically widespread, occurring in the sea lanes of the Far East, off the west coast of Africa, in the eastern Mediterranean, and off the Brazilian coast of South America, he says.

In the first six months of 1985, the International Maritime Bureau received 28 reports of pirate attacks against commercial vessels, most from the Strait of Malacca and West Africa. "We know the majority of cases are not reported," says Kidman.

For a long time, Nigeria was one of the worst trouble spots; ships waiting to dock at Lagos were sitting ducks for pirates. A Nigerian government crackdown that began in 1982 has helped cut the number of incidents dramatically.

But Kidman says "the pirates simply moved along the coast to other countries" such as Liberia, Sierra Leone, Guinea, and the Ivory Coast.

Off West Africa, pirates have taken everything from champagne and perfume to infant formula and birth-control pills. Everywhere, electronic equipment is prized booty. "I have visions of pirates with Sony Walkmans," says Dzurek.

Off West Africa and in the eastern Mediterranean, where countries such as Lebanon have little control of their ports, stolen cargo can be illegally unloaded with no questions asked. Cries of piracy sometimes disguise maritime fraud.

In some cases of "paper piracy," the ship totally disappears, says Robert C. Ritchie, a history professor at the University of California, San Diego. "A shipment of oil, for example, may be taken to an illegal port in South Africa, offloaded and sold there, the ship taken out to sea and sunk, and the insurance money collected."

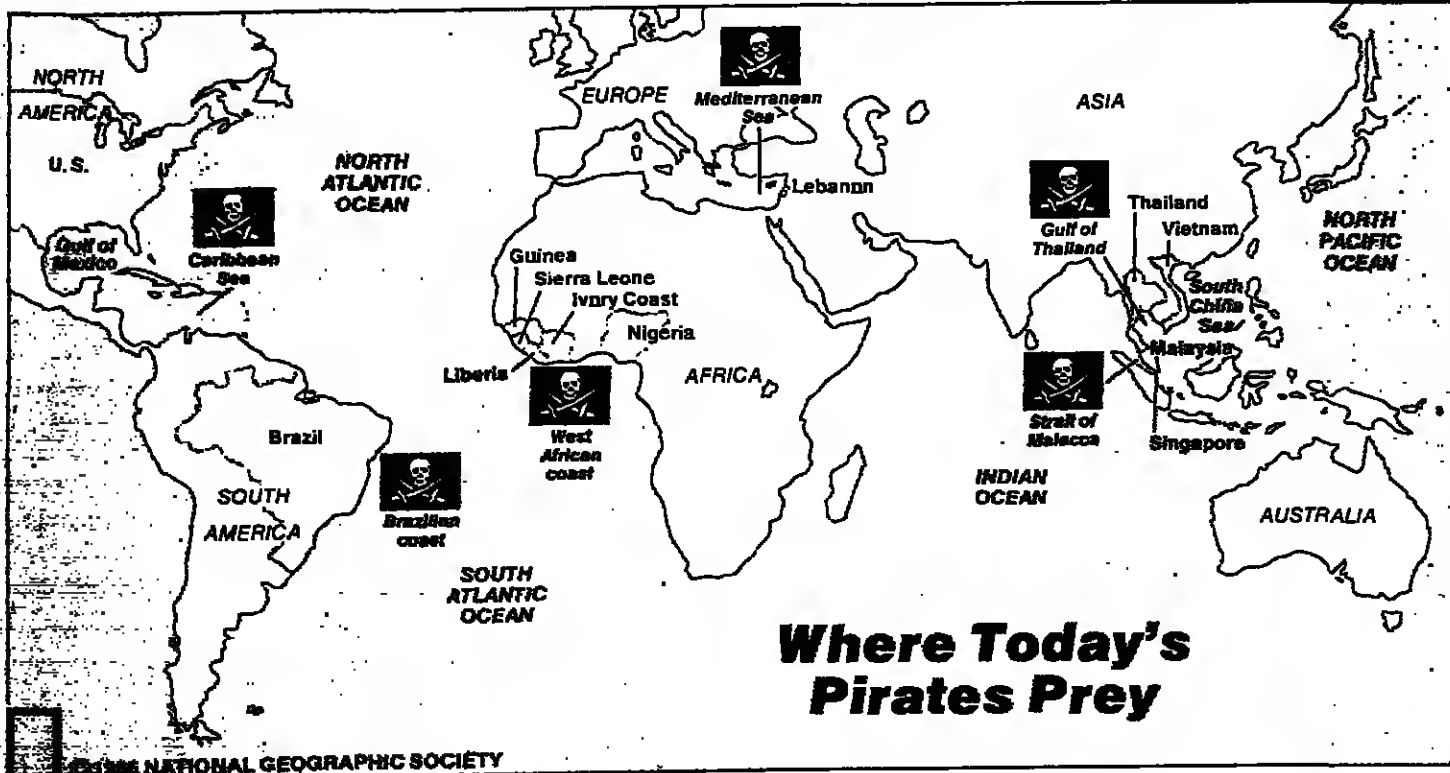
In other cases, ships reported

lost at sea have been diverted to clandestine ports, unloaded, and repainted — reappearing under a new name and a new flag.

By far the most brutal and bloody acts of piracy are against Vietnamese boat people fleeing to Thailand and Malaysia. Pirates, most of them Thai fishermen, killed 388 people, abducted 587, and raped 734 women from 1982 through 1985, the United Nations reports. Another 967 people have been reported missing and are presumed dead.

The violent attacks occurred even after the start of an antipiracy programme in 1982 by the Thai government, with the support of the U.N. and a dozen member nations. Before, more than half of all refugee boats were attacked; now 30 per cent are.

In the Caribbean, where 17th-century pirates attacked rich Spanish galleons, the target today is usually the boat itself, not its cargo. "Narco pirates" seize pleasure craft and convert them into drug-smuggling vessels. But this is happening less often, geographer Dzurek says, as more such pirates take to the skies.



And the beat goes on—piracy in the 1980s

Randa Habib's
Corner

A hasty decision

IN July this year, the newly-formed Ministry of Higher Education took a decision that many people consider both regrettable and unfair. The ministry, concerned about the increasing numbers of higher education graduates, then withdrew its recognition of certificates earned through correspondence courses. The ministry argues that a degree earned through correspondence is not as "genuine" as one earned at campus.

The ministry, according to one of its officials, considers personal and direct contact between professors and students and access to libraries as an essential factor in the success of the learning process.

However, in a country like Jordan which proclaims free enterprise and free market ethics, one fails to agree with such an arbitrary decision. It has been suggested that one of the main reasons behind the decision was successive government's failure to separate employment — especially within the civil service — from the hierarchy of certificates and diplomas, for a certificate is, most of the time, the only criterion for employment.

In the days where expressions like, further education, adult education, open universities, etc., are being heard in the U.S., China, Britain and elsewhere, one fails to understand how a country like Jordan, striving for progress, would limit opportunities for its citizens. Besides, if the government is not willing to employ non-traditional graduates why should the private sector, that might be willing to employ correspondence students and individuals, be made to bear the consequences of such a decision? And what about those among us who cannot afford to enrol at a university but still have ambitions to increase their knowledge?

And besides, isn't it even more productive if all our students studying here or abroad quit the universities, work in our fields and factories and study through correspondence or an open university? This might sound like a crazy idea, but crazy decisions warrant crazy ideas.

Heidelberg University ushers out sixth century in style

By Antonia Sharpe
Reuters

HEIDELBERG, West Germany — For 600 years, Europe's political and religious upheavals have periodically ravaged the walls and sometimes the reputation of Heidelberg University.

Sitting squarely in a picturesque old town on the banks of the Neckar River, the university has at various times been attacked, sacked and burnt to the ground.

But its reputation as a seat of learning saved this south German city from being flattened by allied bombs in World War II.

For the Americans, Heidelberg has always been the incarnation of German universities, university spokesman Dr. Michael Schwarz told Reuters.

The university was used as a backdrop for Sigmund Romberg's popular operetta "The Student Prince," written in 1924. Thousands of foreigners, especially Americans, still flock to a floodlit performance in the nearby castle every summer.

This week, the oldest German university celebrates its 600th birthday with a display of pomp and ceremony that attempts to reflect its chequered past.

For us, the celebrations do not represent a nostalgic dwelling on the past but a chance to look into the future," said Schwarz.

Students as diverse as Nazi propagandist Joseph Goebbels, authors Mark Twain and William Somerset Maugham, and current West German chancellor Helmut Kohl have studied here.

Kohl and other leading West German politicians are returning to Heidelberg on founder's day, October 18, as is German-born alumnus Queen Silvia of Sweden.

Since its foundation in 1386 by Elector Ruprecht the first of the palatinate, various European potentates — from a succession of popes in Rome to the Nazi leaders — have tried to exploit Heidelberg's renown as the leading German centre of learning.

Martin Luther stood in the cobbled square before the main building and denounced Rome in 1518, three years before he was brought before the German diet at Worms, a key event at the beginning of the reformation.

Luther's ideas sucked Heidelberg into the turmoil of religious strife and in the latter part of the 16th-century it became a stronghold of Calvinist thought. During the thirty years war when Protestants and Catholics struggled for religious dominance,

Pope Gregory XV seized Heidelberg's palatine library, regarding it as an aid of Calvinist heresy, and had it transported to Rome.

On the orders of the present Pope John Paul II, the 8,000 volumes of priceless theological and religious manuscripts returned here this summer for the first time since that day in 1623. They remain on exhibition until November 13.

At the turn of this century, one of Heidelberg's leading physicists and Nobel prizewinner, Philipp Lenard, began the first research into so-called "Aryan physics," the study of genetic "purification."

But soon after the German National Socialist Party came to power in 1933, it was mainly Heidelberg's reputation as a liberal university that persuaded Adolf Hitler it should become one of the first German universities to adopt Nazi ideology.

Jewish professors were sacked and replaced with Nazi sympathisers. The university's motto "To The Lively Mind" was changed to "To The German Mind" and the statue of Athena was replaced with the eagle.

Despite its liberal leaning the university still boasts a student prison. From 1712 to the outbreak of World War I, students who got drunk or made too much noise after lights out could be jailed for up to two weeks.

The walls of the prison, now a museum, are covered in graffiti. Dante's famous line from "Inferno" — *lasciate ogni speranza, voi ch'entrate* (abandon hope all ye who enter) — is inscribed over the entrance.

"But in the 19th century, the prison had already become something of a joke," said Schwarz.

Most of the current university buildings date from after 1693 when the entire town was burnt to the ground by French troops during the war of the Orleans succession.

The ruined castle on the hill above the town, an international tourist magnet, still bears the scars of the attack.

The town now houses the site of the United States European military headquarters, and around 20,000 American soldiers are based here.

In 1386, Heidelberg University had 580 students. It now has around 27,000 and attracts students from throughout the world. The university is a leading medical research centre but humanities and sciences still rank high.

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Becker beats No. 1 Lendl

W. German wins 3rd of last 4 meetings with Czech

SYDNEY, Australia (AP) — Teenager Boris Becker senses he is moving closer to becoming the No. 1 tennis player in the world.

The 18-year-old West German, already a two-time Wimbledon champion, defeated current No. 1 Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia in impressive style in the final of the \$345,000 Australian Indoor Championships.

Becker triumphed 3-6, 7-6, 6-2, 6-0, in just under 2½ hours, his third victory in his last four meetings with the powerful Lendl, who is eight years his senior.

What was significant about Sunday's victory that it came on Plexipave, a hard court surface that particularly suits Lendl's game.

"Lendl is still No. 1, but I'm getting closer and closer," Becker said after his emphatic triumph. Consistency is what Becker

believes stands between him and the top spot.

"Ivan seems to reach a final almost every week," he said.

"Playing the good players brings out the best in me, but I still sometimes have trouble with the not so good players."

Becker has won four Grand Prix tournaments this year against Lendl's nine.

Lendl said he didn't feel non-Grand Slam events had much importance regarding who was no. 1.

"It's not a disaster to lose to Boris. It's just another day, another match," he said after only his fifth loss of the year, three coming against Becker.



Boris Becker



Ivan Lendl

American yachts and N. Zealand lead America's Cup preliminary

FREMANTLE, Australia (R) — Two Americans and a New Zealander have emerged as the top challengers for the America's Cup after the first round robin yachting series which finished Sunday.

Easy victories for the New York Yacht Club's America II, Dennis Conner's Stars and Stripes and the unique fibreglass yacht New Zealand meant all three boats shared top place with 11 points each from 12 races.

Each victory from the first challenger's round robin earns one point, the second from Nov. 2 earns five and a third in December brings 12. The top four yachts go on to semifinals and the best two to finals in mid-January to choose a challenger for the cup from Jan. 31.

Conner, America II's John Kulis and the youngest skipper in the regatta, 24-year-old New Zealander Chris Dickson, are confirmed as the men to heat in

the series with Britain's Harold Cudmore and American Tom Blackaller outside chances.

Sunday, America II comfortably defeated Italia. Conner had an easy final race against Chicago yacht Heart of America as did New Zealand against Challenge France.

Also Sunday, the six yachts from four syndicates aiming to defend the Cup raced the second day of their parallel selection series with 1983 Cup winner Alan Bond watching another of his yachts trounced.

Rival Perth millionaire Kevin Parry's Kookaburra III beat Bond's newest yacht Australia IV by 43 seconds after leading all the way on the eight-leg 24.5 nautical mile course.

Kookaburra II followed Saturday's win against Bond's world 12-metre fleet racing champion Australia III by crushing the Ben Lexcen-designed South Australia.

Australia III had a closer race than skipper Gordon Lucas probably would have wished before defeating the last-favoured entrant, Sydney's Steak 'n Kidney, by one minute and 11 seconds in the shifting seven to 17 knot breeze.

With its yachts yet to match the smoothness and apparent speed of the Kookaburra's, the Bond Syndicate must be looking forward to the heavier weather its yachts were theoretically designed for.

Taskforce though must be impressed by the versatility of its yachts, also designed for heavier weather, but taking well to lighter conditions.

Back on the challenger's course, Canada II led California's Eagle narrowly throughout to win by one and a half minutes and keep sixth place overall.

French Kiss showed again it is not a light air boat when it lost to Blackaller's radical USA which has for and aft rudders and has shown great turns of speed.

Boston takes opening game of World Series

NEW YORK (AP) — Bruce Hurst won a duel of different styles with Ron Darling, and the Boston Red Sox capitalised on Tim Lincecum's error to beat the New York Mets 1-0 Saturday night in the opening game of the 1986 World Series.

Darling had a three-hit shutout going into the seventh inning, but the Red Sox scored without a hit when Teufel, who platoons at second base with Wally Backman, let a ground ball go through his legs.

Jim Rice walked for the second time to open the seventh and went to second on Darling's second wild pitch of the game.

After a ground out, Rich Gedman's grounder went through Teufel, and Rice raced home.

The Red Sox's victory set up a meeting of the aces of the two teams in Sunday night's game 2 when Boston's Roger Clemens, 24-4, faces the Mets' Dwight Gooden, 17-6.

Hurst allowed only four hits — all singles — before leaving for a pinch hitter in the ninth. He struck out eight and walked four as he kept the Mets' bats as cool as the weather, continuing their weak postseason hitting. New York hit .189 against Houston in the playoffs.

Former Met Calvin Schiraldi

came on to pitch the ninth inning and got the save.

Three times in the game, Hurst allowed a walk and a hit in the same inning, but he was not punished for his wildness. After dominating the Red Sox with a combination of power and precision, Darling paid dearly for his wild spell.

In the seventh, Darling went to a 3-2 count on Rice, and for the second time, he walked him. With Evans at bat, Darling threw a wild pitch that bounced in the dirt in front of home plate, and by the time catcher Gary Carter chased it down, Rice was at second base.

Evans grounded out back to mound as Darling looked Rice back to second, and then Gedman came up. Gedman hit a routine grounder right at Teufel.

Teufel backpedalled a step, stopped, then left the ball skip under his glove and between his legs. Rice scored easily ahead of right fielder Darrell Strawberry's throw.

Darling, backing up home plate, collided with on-deck batter Dave Henderson.

Darling rolled in the dirt, shaken up, but he was uninjured. Henderson fled out, and after Spike Owen was intentionally walked, Darling struck out Hurst to end the inning. But first blood had been drawn.

Navratilova triumphs for 122nd singles win

FILDERSTADT, West Germany (R) — Martina Navratilova won the 122nd singles title of her career, rounding off a perfect week which has seen her notch her 1,000th victory and celebrate her 30th birthday.

The world number one played irresistibly to crush Hana Mandlikova of Czechoslovakia 6-2, 6-3 in the final of the \$175,000 Filderstadt Women's Tournament.

She also collected a grey Porsche 959 car for her win, just one day after receiving a sports car for her birthday present.

Any thoughts that the Czechoslovak-born American might find age creeping up on her after turning 30 were dispelled by her scintillating display Sunday.

"I saved my best tennis for today," she said afterwards. "I needed to play my best because Hana is a very good player."

Navratilova volleyed superbly throughout and also played a series of impossible-looking winners when under pressure at the back of the court.

Mandlikova put up some resistance, saving four set points in the first set and two match points

in the second but she never got near to breaking the American's powerful serve.

Mandlikova, who has pulled out of next week's tournament in Brighton, England, because of a stomach muscle injury, confessed she had not slept well because of the pain.

"But that's no excuse," she said. "She played great tennis and deserved to win. Every time she saves her best tennis to play against me."

It was Navratilova's 122nd win in 266 official tournaments since she started on the circuit in 1973. She has won an astonishing 1,004 of her 1,150 singles matches, a success rate of more than 87 per cent.

It was also her 11th title of 1986 in a year which has seen her beaten just three times.

For Mandlikova, ranked fourth in the world, the match was another disappointment. She has not won a tournament since beating both Chris Evert Lloyd and Navratilova to capture the U.S. Open last year.

She has reached three finals this year but each time she has been beaten by Navratilova.

India-Australia test match ends in draw

BOMBAY, India (AP) — The third and final cricket test match ended in a draw Sunday after an unbeaten 146-run partnership between Australian captain Alan Border and Dean Jones helped the visitors to avert a possible defeat against India.

It was a disappointing end to an exciting test series which, however, produced no result in any match. The first match in

Madras concluded in a nail-biting tie — the second ever in cricket history. Both sides finished in Madras with the same aggregate scores. The rain-marred New Delhi test, which began more than three-and-a-half days behind schedule, was drawn.

India triumphed 3-2 in the one-day international series against Australia.

"It was an absorbing series, and I think on this tour we succeeded in building our team into a challenging force," said Border, who came to India after a lacklustre Australian performance.

Cyprus' Apoel pulls out of Istanbul tie

NICOSIA (R) — Apoel Nicosia, told the European Football Union (UEFA) it would not play Besiktas of Istanbul in a European Champions' Cup second round soccer tie next Wednesday, a club official said Sunday.

"We have told UEFA we are not going to Istanbul because Besiktas failed to keep an agreement to inform us by noon today whether they would enter Cyprus by a legal port and accept our choice of hotel in Nicosia for the second leg," the official told Reuters.

The latest twist in the saga of the controversial UEFA draw between the Cypriot and Turkish teams came as a surprise.

The Cypriot government had already banned the playing of the second leg in Nicosia, but Apoel said Saturday they were determined to go to Istanbul and play the second leg on neutral ground.

"Since the Cypriot government yesterday banned the playing of the second round leg in Nicosia, Besiktas will almost certainly ask why it should have today accepted arrangements for a trip to Cyprus," one sports writer said.

The agreement which Apoel alleges Besiktas breached was one of a number of points agreed between the two teams and UEFA at a meeting in Zurich to discuss the problem tie last Monday.

Cyprus has no diplomatic relations with Ankara, which

recognises a breakaway state in Turkish-occupied northern Cyprus.

No other country recognises the northern state and ports and airports there are internationally declared illegal.

Since the controversy began when the draw was announced on Oct. 3, Apoel had been resisting government pressure to withdraw from the ties and had already obtained visas from the Turkish embassy in Athens to travel to Istanbul Monday.

A Besiktas official said Saturday that his team was not concerned by the ban on the Nicosia game and was willing to play that leg on neutral ground.

Behind-the-scenes government pressure on Apoel has been intense, thrusting the modest sports club into the angry political divide between Cyprus and Turkey.

Feelings against the games have been running high among many of the 200,000 Greek Cypriot refugees from the 1974 war in northern Cyprus when Turkey invaded. Three refugees play for Apoel.

The island's powerful Greek Orthodox Church intensified the pressure on Apoel Saturday when its leader, Archbishop Chrysostomos, expressed the church's "deep regret and sense of national humiliation" over Apoel's determination to play the games.

Britain's Lees wins Fuji race

GOTEMBA, Japan (AP) — Britain's Geoff Lees, driving a March 85S Yamaha, won the 200-kilometre fourth and final leg of the 1986 Fuji Masters Speed Championship Auto Race Sunday, capturing the overall championship as well.

Lees covered 45 laps on the 4.441-kilometre (2.7 mile) Fuji International Speedway circuit at the foot of Mount Fuji in one hour, 7 minutes, 53.302 seconds for an average speed of 176.624 kilometres an hour.

Lees, who started from the pole position, led until he made a pit stop after 30 laps.

While he was in the pit, Japan's leading driver, Kazuyoshi Hoshino, driving a Bizen 85S, took the lead. But on the 35th lap, Hoshino skidded on the rainy track, crashed into a guard rail and withdrew from the race. Hoshino was not injured.

Lees took the lead again, and held it all the way to the finish.

With Sunday's victory, Lees became the overall champion of the four-race series with 46 points and collected 7 million yen (\$45,000), including Sunday's first money prize of 5 million yen (\$32,000).

Japan's Kenji Takahashi, driving an Advan MC57 Yamaha, finished second in 1:09:33.591 and received 2.7 million yen (\$17,500).

Keiji Matsumoto, driving a Yamaha, was third, covering 44 laps in 1:08:24.389.

A total of 24 cars started and 12 completed the race. Lees was the only foreign driver.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Al Ahli opens sports complex

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Al Ahli Club of Jordan opens its new sports complex Monday with an inaugural ceremony and basketball tournament under the patronage of His Majesty King Hussein. The basketball tournament will involve Al Ahli sports clubs from the Emirates, Egypt, and Saudi Arabia, as well as Al Ahli of Jordan, and will run until Oct. 25.

Coventry beats Wimbledon

COVENTRY, England (AP) — Coventry City beat Wimbledon 1-0 in an English First Division soccer match Sunday. Dave Bennett striking the only goal after 58 minutes. A crowd of 11,099 saw Coventry move into the top eight in the standings but until Bennett scored, the home side was frustrated by Wimbledon's all-action long ball game, which was aided by a blustery wind.

Juventus trounces Ascoli

ROME (R) — Injury-hit Juventus enjoyed the perfect morale-booster before its European Cup clash with Real Madrid on Wednesday when it won 5-0 at Ascoli Sunday. Winger Massimo Briacchi led the rout with two goals as the Turin side put itself one point ahead of nearest rivals Napoli at the top of the Italian First Division. Napoli was held to a 2-2 draw by Atalanta.

Norman takes 5th consecutive tourney

SYDNEY (R) — Greg Norman added another chapter to his outstanding success story when he triumphed in his fifth consecutive golf tournament Sunday, winning the New South Wales Open by five strokes. The Florida-based Australian had a final round of 73 for a nice-under-par total of 275, while compatriot Lyndsay Stephen shot a 72 and was runner-up for the second successive year.

Kodama runs year's best marathon

PEKING (AP) — Japanese runner Taisuke Kodama won the 1986 Peking International Marathon Sunday with this year's world best time in a marathon, the official Xinhua News Agency said. Kodama's time of 2 hours, 7 minutes, 35 seconds was faster than the year's previous best of 2:07:51, Xinhua said.

Pakistani scouts

cycling to Mecca

ABU DHABI (R) — A group of Pakistani scouts cycling to the Holy City of Mecca believe they are the first people to perform the pilgrimage by bicycle.

The scouts, aged between 13 and 19, appeared in high spirits as they described their trip while relaxing at the Pakistan Islamic College in Abu Dhabi.

They had completed a third of their 3,800 kilometres journey, cycling on roads in temperatures of 35 to 40 degrees centigrade.

Group leader Abdul Ghani, 19, said the decision to make the ride was made by the Pakistan Scout Association with the aim of giving a special activity for Muslim scouts.

The scouts, all on their first trip outside Pakistan, set out from Karachi on August 31 and hope to reach Mecca on November 2.

The Pakistan Scouts Association, headed by President Mohammad Zia-Ul-Haq provided maps and guidelines while embassies in the Gulf are helping with immigration procedures.

"The trip is not an easy one," said Ali Qader, 15. "But the challenge makes it more attractive and interesting because all of us are looking forward to seeing the Holy Land of the Prophet Mohammed."

He said it took them 12 hours to cover less than 30 kilometres of a hilly road between Karachi and Beila when they sometimes had to carry their bicycles and 20 kilograms of equipment.

Group leader Ghani said they were also delayed because they had to replace 12 inner tubes and three tyres. He said they cycled 800 kilometres to Gawader near the Iranian border and then flew to Muscat while their bicycles and equipment went by ship.

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Superpower accord on nuclear testing seen possible soon

MOSCOW (Agencies) — The United States and the Soviet Union could sign an agreement on monitoring nuclear tests within the next few months, U.S. embassy officials in Moscow said Sunday.

Some progress was made on this question in Reykjavik and I get the feeling this issue could break in the next few months," one official told Reuters.

"If the Soviet Union does not drop its Reykjavik proposals, I would not disallow the possibility of an agreement soon."

A unilateral moratorium on nuclear tests has been in force in the Soviet Union for 14 months. Washington has continued testing, citing problems of verification and saying testing is necessary to maintain the efficiency of its nuclear deterrent.

Embassy officials in Moscow said the most likely way of reaching agreement would be for both sides to make concessions and meet each other half-way. This could involve, for example, carrying out a limited number of tests that would be verified.

U.S. diplomats said they could not confirm reports that Soviet and U.S. scientists had signed an agreement to install a communications system that would enable them to verify a nuclear test ban.

They said such an agreement would be unlikely to have any effect in Moscow and Washington's negotiations because it was probably an agreement between private groups.

"This seems to be a private-sector agreement which would be unlikely to affect government positions and I'd be

Man deported from U.K. questioned in Palme case

STOCKHOLM (AP) — A guerrilla suspect deported from Great Britain to Sweden has been questioned and released by Swedish authorities seeking leads to the slaying of Prime Minister Olof Palme, a newspaper reported.

"The terrorist-tag ... was considered too weak," the Stockholm newspaper Aftonbladet said of the unidentified man, a Swedish citizen of Arab descent.

The London Sunday Telegraph reported the Swede was one of six suspects arrested by British officers three weeks ago. The Swede was thought to be a key figure in the Palestinian Abu Nidal organisation.

The Swede, after being deported by Britain, was questioned several times by the Swedish security police in the southern town of Helsingborg, the newspaper said.

The Feb. 28 slaying of Mr. Palme remains unsolved.

The Sunday Telegraph, which supports Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's Conservative Party, quoted government sources as saying the suspects may have been in London to kill the Israeli ambassador to Britain, Yehuda Avner.

"Police found several copies of the Jewish Chronicle at the home of one of the men, with dates and times of events to which Mr. Avner may have been invited," the Sunday Telegraph said.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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DEAR MR. GOREN

Q.—We still play the old-fashioned way. After a single raise from partner, opener bids three of his suit to ask partner to bid game if he is at the top of the scale for his raise. A friend who plays duplicate regularly says the re-raise is pre-emptive and you should bid a new suit as a game try. How does that work? R.D., Middletown, N.Y.

A.—It is fine to play that a re-raise by opener is pre-emptive—if you are playing duplicate bridge. There, it can be a major gain if you go down 100 points when the opponents can score 110 or even more. At rubber bridge, however, it can be an expensive pastime to go down in part-score contracts when you are not sure that the opponents are going to enter the bidding.

Given that, your friend is right when he suggests that it is more valuable to use all suits as game tries rather than a raise to the three-level in opener's. More often than not, you need to know about partner's bidding in a specific suit rather than whether he has 9 points or only 7. For example, presume you open with one spade and partner raises to two spades. You hold:

♠AK7632 ♥7 ♦A5 ♣KJ63
Suppose that partner does hold 9 points which include the king-queen of hearts. Those cards are not very

helpful to you—at best you will be able to get a slow discard of a possible loser. He would venture to four spades and quite likely you would have no play for your contract. However, you would be almost laydown for four spades if partner has the right 4 points—the two black queens. Even a singleton club would give you good play for game.

What would happen if you were to make your game try in the suit where you needed help—in this case, clubs? Partner would value his holding in that suit only to making his decision whether to bid game or not. With a useless holding, such as three low cards, he would simply correct to three spades. With a good holding, such as a high honor or a singleton, he would venture to game. If he is not sure whether his holding is good enough, he can show a feature in another suit if it is lower-ranking than the trump suit, and ask opener to decide.

You can still use a re-raise of partner's suit as a general-strength game try. You would tend to use it on a hand where you do not need help in a specific suit, but where any time partner has a good raise you will have chances for game. A typical holding might be:

♠AKJ853 ♥KQ5 ♦K6 ♣94

India and Thailand call for Vietnamese pullout from Kampuchea

BANGKOK (R) —India, one of the few non-communist states to recognise the pro-Hanoi government in Phnom Penh, on Sunday joined Thailand in calling on Vietnam to withdraw its troops from Kampuchea.

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, here on a 24-hour official visit, said Kampuchea had a right to determine its destiny "free from all foreign interference, subversion and coercion."

He spoke at an official dinner after talks with Thai Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanonda on expanding bilateral trade.

Mr. Gandhi said about Kampuchea to the dinner audience: "We urge a process of negotiations to secure the withdrawal of all foreign forces."

Mr. Prem praised India as a champion of suppressed nations and urged Mr. Gandhi to find a settlement in Kampuchea according to the U.N. General Assembly's annual calls for a troop pullout.

Vietnam says it will withdraw its troops, estimated in the West around 140,000, by 1990 but Western countries say they doubt it will do so.

Vietnam installed a pro-Hanoi government in Phnom Penh in 1979 after deposing the four-year-old Khmer Rouge government.

The Khmer Rouge, during whose rule hundreds of thousands of Kampuchean were killed, is now part of a three-party U.N.-backed coalition fighting Phnom Penh. The coalition is led by exiled Prince Norodom Sihanouk.

Thousands of Kabul residents, flanked by Soviet and Afghan soldiers and agents of the Afghan Khad security police, cheered, threw flowers and shouted "shukriya" (Russian for "thank-you") as the regiment rolled past.

The regiment is one of six that the Soviet Union is withdrawing from Afghanistan this month in what has been presented as a goodwill gesture designed to speed up a settlement of the Afghan war.

Afghan leader General Najibullah told a news conference Saturday night that the Afghan people were tired of bloodshed and the war could end and the

well and we are nearly at the end ...," Mr. Sharmayara, who is also minister of posts and telecommunications, said during a visit to Zimbabwe's second biggest city. "The substance of the agreement is that we have agreed to unite."

Mr. Mugabe and Mr. Nkomo began unity talks a year ago aimed at merging the country's two main political parties. At first, the discussions stalled over Mr. Nkomo's demands that he should be leader of the expanded party.

Mugabe and Nkomo agree to merge parties

BULAWAYO, Zimbabwe (AP) — Prime Minister Robert Mugabe and opposition leader Joshua Nkomo have agreed to merge their two political parties under Mr. Mugabe's leadership, the Sunday News reported.

The newspaper, controlled by the state-owned Mass Media Trust, quoted Information Minister Nathan Shamuyarira as saying Mr. Mugabe would formally announce the merger before the end of the year.

"The unity talks have gone very

Crates of weapons litter Florida coast

JUPITER ISLAND, Florida (Agencies) — Wooden crates with foreign markings on the outside and filled with rifles and live mortar shells washed ashore on several beaches Saturday, authorities said.

Police and navy officials speculate that the weapons came from either a freighter that went down two weeks ago off Lake Worth inlet or from the Soviet nuclear submarine that sank off the Bermuda coast on Oct. 6.

Some of the boxes contained rifles and live mortar shells. Jupiter Island police chief Jack Curry said. A bomb squad placed the weapons in a bombproof trailer, he said.

Between 16 and 20 crates have been found, said Sheriff Richard Wille of nearby Palm Beach.

"Our concern is that people picked up the explosives and carried them off," Sheriff Wille said. "We know for sure that one whole box that washed ashore just disappeared."

The sheriff said residents are being asked not to touch the crates. He said they might be radioactive, but did not elaborate.

State parks where the crates were found have been closed until the investigation is completed, Mr. Curry said.

The crates washed ashore from Jupiter Island in the north to Delray Beach in the south, a distance of about 82 kilometres, said FBI Agent Bob Newman.

The weapons could have come from a Bahamian freighter, named the Long Island Express, which went down about 80 kilometres off Lake Worth inlet, said Lt. Claran Schoenauer.

But coast guard officials expressed doubt that anything from the freighter could have crossed the strong gulf stream currents without being swept northward.

Philippines government resumes talks with Communist rebels

MANILA (R) — Philippine government representatives and Communist envoys have resumed talks aimed at forging a nation-wide ceasefire to the 17-year-old insurgency, a senior government official said Sunday.

Presidential adviser Joker Arroyo said talks lasting nearly three hours were held on Sunday, the first since the military's arrest of top Communist leader Rodolfo Salas three weeks ago. The location was not known.

He quoted Agriculture Minister Ramon Mitra, one of the government negotiators at the meeting, as saying the talks dealt with no substantive issues but were encouraging.

They coincided with the release of two soldiers captured by Communist guerrillas three weeks ago who were presented to President Corason Aquino on Sunday with a letter from their rebel New People's Army (NPA) captors.

One of the negotiators in their release, Ed Abcede, mayor of Lucena, a town south of Manila, said the NPA gave over the two unconditionally as a sign of good faith towards President Corason Aquino, whose policy is to seek a negotiated peace before considering a resort to military strikes.

On Friday, she met Communist rebels for the first time as president and discussed with them the possibility of establishing a local ceasefire.

A joint statement, issued after her unscheduled talks with a Roman Catholic priest and a daughter of a former town mayor, said the rebels were open to the idea of a ceasefire across the central island of Panay. Mrs. Aquino visited the island as part of her programme to consult the people outside Manila.

Presidential spokesman Teodoro Benigno said her visit had encouraged the resumption of talks on a national ceasefire.

The NPA in southern Tagalog said in its letter, delivered with the soldiers: "We are going to support and honour the results of the talks between the National Democratic Front (a communist umbrella group representing the NPA) and the government."

Abcede said the NPA would abide by any future national ceasefire but that a local truce operating in the area since Oct. 4, would end Monday afternoon.

The local ceasefire in 19 towns was agreed upon by the NPA and the military to help negotiate the two soldiers' release.

Sergeant Domingo Causapin, 30, and Lieutenant Romeo Gan, 26, were taken by rebels in an attack on army barracks in Buenavista in southern Tagalog's Bondoc peninsula, a rebel

stronghold.

Meanwhile, Defence Minister Juan Ponce Enrile was quoted Sunday as saying the cabinet should be dissolved if President Corason Aquino asked him to resign.

The official Philippines News Agency (PNA) reported that Mr. Enrile made the statement during a call-in show on a local radio station in Cebu, where he was to speak at an anti-communist rally later Sunday.

PNA said a caller asked Mr. Enrile how he planned to respond to calls for his resignation by some cabinet colleagues angered by his opposition to some of Mrs. Aquino's policies, including peace overtures to the Communist rebels.

"I will think about that when the time comes," PNA quoted Mr. Enrile as saying. "You know, the government is a coalition government, and I think if they ask for the resignation of any member of the coalition, well, that means the coalition will have to be dissolved."

Philippine commentators warn that a showdown between Mrs. Aquino and Mr. Enrile could trigger a major political crisis because he has the support of several key figures in the Philippine armed forces who share his scepticism over negotiations with the Communists.

Punjab police fail to find Sikh radio

NEW DELHI (AP) — Punjab's finest policemen were red-faced Sunday after failing for the third time in three weeks to find a "pirate" radio transmitter used by suspected terrorists to jam the police radio, the United News of India (UNI) reported.

UNI, in a report from the Sikh holy city of Amritsar, said a transmitter jammed the Punjab police wireless network Saturday night for 15 minutes.

The airwaves were filled with a continuous recitation of Sikh religious hymns, according to UNI's police sources.

It was the third time in three weeks that suspected Sikh terrorists had jammed the radio and embarrassed the police, searching for the transmitter without success.

Punjab is swarming with police, paramilitary soldiers and new communications equipment to fight Sikh terrorists demanding a separate nation in Punjab.

But police have failed to find or even pinpoint the very high frequency transmitter, believed to be in northern Amritsar or Gurdaspur districts.

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